

Gold to be used as backing for international borrowing

A plan for gold to be used by nations as backing for international borrowing has been approved in Washington by finance ministers of the main industrialized countries.

In accepting this, the United States Government has also agreed to a French demand to allow countries to revalue their gold reserves from the official price to one in line with market quotations, so boosting the value of reserves and a country's credit worthiness. This is likely to help to solve Italy's financial crisis.

World plan will help Italy boost reserves

From Frank Vogl
US Economics Correspondent

Washington, June 12

Finance ministers of the main industrialized countries have agreed that gold can now be used by countries as collateral for international borrowing.

The United States Treasury said today that finance ministers are making progress towards the "twin objectives of agreeing on procedural steps to phase gold out of central role in the monetary system and at the same time permit it to be mobilized when needed by countries in balance of payments difficulties."

The gold agreements, made urgent by the economic crisis in Italy, were reached last night at an informal dinner of the Group of Ten finance ministers, given by Signor Guido Carli, the Italian Central Bank governor, who is the only Italian Government representative attending the Committee of Ten's meetings here on monetary reform.

A senior European government official, who attended the dinner, told *The Times* today that there will be no formal announcement of the agreement reached at the Committee of Ten meeting. He said, however, that it has been agreed that countries can use gold as collateral on international borrowing, with gold priced in such deals at a market-related price.

He added that the United States Government has accepted this and that it has also accepted a French demand, made last night at the dinner, which would allow countries, should they wish, to revalue their gold reserves from the official price to price in line with free market quotations.

The official added: "No country, not even Italy, has the intention of selling gold now. The agreements are aimed solely at boosting the value of reserves that countries can draw on should they need it, and this means the credit-worthiness of countries in international markets will be strengthened."

Italy's gold reserves, as last published for the end of March, are worth \$12,911m (about £3,380m) at yesterday's closing price for gold in the London commodity market. At the official price they were worth \$3,483m.

The official said there was no mention at the meeting last night of a special international loan for Italy. "Italy can now use her gold in security for a loan, and loans can be worked out on a bilateral basis," he said.

Signor Carli is holding several private meetings with individual finance ministers here today and tomorrow. However, a West German Government official stated that "there would be no difficulty in arranging a loan for Italy at short notice, but there is a point in discussing this until Italy has a government and a set of domestic anti-inflation policies."

The United States Treasury notes that this gold agreement does not necessarily mean that countries will be able to get free market rates for their gold holdings.

Aylesford and Co: Apology

On March 12 we published on the front page an article by John Plender headed "Many estate agents running own property-dealing empires". This article criticized the practice whereby some estate agents have been combining property dealing on a huge scale with their orthodox activities. One of the firms of estate agents which the article implied was engaged in this activity was Aylesford and Co through its connexion with Mr Oliver Burge.

We now accept that during the period when Mr Burge held a controlling interest in Aylesford and Co the estate agency side was run by Mr Andrew Langston and was quite separate from the property dealing side run by Mr Burge. Furthermore, since November, 1973, Aylesford and Co has been wholly owned by Mr Langston and neither Mr Langston nor Aylesford and Co has any connexion whatsoever with any property-dealing companies.

We unreservedly withdrew the allegations against Aylesford and Co and we are glad to apologize to them for the embarrassment they have been caused.

The Treasury stated that "as in the case of all loans, this presupposes the leader would set the value on collateral pledged, and therefore such a plan would not necessarily envisage valuing gold at a market price."

The official who attended last night's dinner, emphasized that the agreement reached does not go as far as EEC countries would have liked. There is no provision yet for countries to buy gold outright from one another or from the market, the official said. The Americans, he added, still oppose this.

The Americans, however, are keen to see swift progress on international agreements on phasing gold out of the monetary system. The discussions here within the Committee of 20 are centred on this subject.

Alternative proposals are before the committee and International Monetary Fund sources stated that "under one approach, monetary authorities, including the IMF, would be free to sell, but not to buy, gold in the market at the market price."

"They would not undertake transactions with one another at a price different from the official price, which would be retained and would not be subject to a uniform increase."

The source added that under another approach the official price would be abolished and monetary authorities, including the IMF, would be free to deal in gold with one another on a voluntary basis and at mutually acceptable prices, and to sell gold in the market.

A further approach would be that the IMF would be authorized to buy gold from monetary authorities in exchange for special drawing rights at a price between the market and the official price and to sell gold gradually over time in the market."

The Americans and the IMF favour the approach but some European officials are holding out for the scheme that would allow them directly to buy gold from the market, rather than have to deal through the IMF.

A final gold agreement is seen as likely at the IMF annual meeting in September. United States Government officials admitted that they are trying to coordinate their own domestic plans enabling American citizens to buy and sell gold with the international plans on gold.

The basic American hope seems to be that the IMF should be in a position to start selling gold just when American citizens are given the chance for the first time in 40 years to start buying gold.

By this coincidence of timing the American officials hope that IMF gold sales will not depress free market values too much, as they will quite possibly be offset by a most considerable demand by American citizens.

Monetary reform proposals

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Price curb on main foodstuffs defended

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, announced in the Commons yesterday that she has reached agreement with retailers on a voluntary control of prices of essential foodstuffs and other basic household items.

She said retailers with a turnover of £250,000, who were required to make a 10 per cent reduction on their gross margins, would concentrate it on a list of agreed basic items. Those affected will be mainly the large supermarket chains.

The Retail Consortium had agreed to recommend her proposals to its members, and she said that they would cooperate. Small traders would be asked to make reductions, although they would be unable to include all the items on the agreed list.

Mrs Williams said she had also agreed with food manufacturers, who in many cases determined the extent of the promotional activity, to concentrate their promotional cuts on certain basic items.

Although Mrs Williams made no pretence that her scheme would do more than help the most hard-pressed families, or that it would reduce the retail price index, the announcement brought a tirade from Mr Paul Channon, on the Opposition front benches.

Mrs Williams, she thundered, was engaged upon a cynical political charade designed to fool the British people in the short term without regard to the long-term consequences. It was "a ploy to pretend that the Government had been concerned to reduce the rate of inflation. Some prices would be kept steady while the prices of other basic foods would have to rise to compensate for the reductions. What she had proposed, Mr Channon said, was verging on the ridiculous."

Mrs Williams replied that the purpose of the agreement was to hold down the price of the most essential foodstuffs. She claimed no more than that. Her aim was to help in particular pensioners and other low-income families who were worst affected by inflation. She reminded the House that the rate of increase in the food index was slowing, and that was unrelated to action taken by the Government.

The basic items on the retailers' list are bread, cheese, butter, baby milk, apples, bananas and oranges, potatoes, one basic vegetable, one tin of eggs, one tin of lamb or one weight range of chicken, biscuits, electric bulbs, matches, toilet soap, toothpaste and denture powder.

The manufacturers have agreed to concentrate promotion cuts on: sausages, cooking oil, cooking fat, rice, tinned corn, tinned milk, tinned soups, breakfast cereals, fish fingers, frozen vegetables, instant coffee, baby and infant foods in packets, tins and tins, baked beans and canned soups.

Plan welcomed: Spar Veno, one of the largest voluntary grocery organizations, last night welcomed Mrs Williams' statement (Patricia Tisdall writes). Its endorsement of the voluntary package, together with that of the Retail Consortium, means that it is likely to be accepted at least in principle by well over 90 per cent of food traders.

Parliamentary report, page 10

Israel MPs told of torturing of prisoners by Syrians

From Eric Marsden
Jerusalem, June 12

Two Israeli prisoners of war in Syria died after torture, five were maimed and many others suffered injuries. Mr Shimon Peres, the Israel Defence Minister, alleged in the Knesset today.

He disclosed that debriefing of the 68 prisoners who returned last week under the disengagement agreement elicited that electric shocks, tearing out of fingernails and toenails, whipping and blows on open wounds were used during interrogation of the prisoners.

Mr Peres was speaking in a Knesset debate on the treatment of the prisoners, more than 20 of whom listened intently from the visitors' gallery. He alleged that Syria had grossly violated the Geneva Convention, to which it was a signatory. Syria had

acted in a way that was beneath any human standards in peace or war. Mr Peres said that the Minister, cited cases in which Syrian soldiers were reported to have fired at point-blank range at pilots bailing out and at soldiers who had thrown down their arms.

He recalled that for four months the Damascus Government refused to state how many prisoners it held or give their names. Letters to prisoners from their families were not handed over until the beginning of last month, seven months after they were taken captive.

Quoting "objective testimony" received in Israel, Mr Peres said the men were held under severely overcrowded conditions—as many as 30 in a small, narrow cell with only 21 mattresses, without adequate

ventilation and with only minimal sanitary facilities. The food was poor, even for the wounded, and medical treatment bad and irregular, he said.

During interrogation electric shocks were applied to sensitive parts of the body. Nails were torn out. In one case a hole was drilled in a nail, which was then torn out with an iron hook. Men were beaten and whipped on various parts of the body.

A preliminary report by the Israel Army's chief medical officer said that the vast majority of prisoners were exposed to severe physical and mental torture. The usual methods were beatings and electric shocks, wounds deliberately inflicted on the ears, burns on the legs and "suspension in painful positions".

As a result, most of the returning prisoners suffered in-

juries, including marks of beatings on the soles of the feet, and to the head, ears and teeth.

The report added that treatment at Syrian hospitals was minimal and few were admitted to hospital.

All of them had violated the law by their "inhuman behaviour", Mr Peres said.

"This cruelty was inflicted by all ranks—from soldiers and jailers who fired at unarmed prisoners, through the ranks responsible for the terrible tortures, up to the leaders of the regime, who rejected the proposal of the accepted requirement of the provision of details to the families."

There was no proof that representatives of any foreign power took any active part in interrogations, he added. This was presumably reference to the recent report in *The Sunday*

Times that Russian experts had been involved in injections of succinyl choline, a drug causing agonising spasms and breathlessness, to Israeli prisoners to make them talk.

Mr Peres pointed out that Israel notified the International Red Cross last October that soldiers had been murdered after being taken prisoner on the Golan Heights and Mount Hermon. He called on the civilized world to see that those responsible for atrocities were brought to trial, and to prevent a recurrence.

The Minister dismissed charges of torture made by Syrian returning prisoners as trumped-up attempts to weaken Israel's case.

The House passed a six-point resolution "in anger and indignation" at the murder and torture of Israel prisoners.



Crowds chant "God bless Nixon" as the American leader drives with President Sadat to Cairo.

Mr Nixon given hero's welcome

From Paul Martin
Cairo, June 12

President Nixon declared on his arrival to a hero's welcome in Cairo today that his meeting with President Sadat might turn out to be "one of the great turning points" in history.

More than a quarter of a million Egyptians lined the route of the President's car procession, cheering and shouting praise as it made its way from the airport to the Presidential palace.

This start to Mr Nixon's Middle East tour was a far cry from the mounting problems he is facing at home. As he made his way through the city he was greeted by placards declaring "God bless you a Nixon." "Keep

it up Nixon," and "We have confidence in you". At several points wildly enthusiastic crowds broke through police cordons in an effort to shake his hand.

Addressing a crowd with President Sadat at the Kubbeh Palace later, President Nixon emphasized the importance of the new relationship between Egypt and the United States. He declared that the United States was determined to develop these relations along two fronts.

The first was the economic link with the United States, which he said was playing a major role in the development of Egypt. The second was in the search for "permanent, just and equitable peace". The one was inseparable from the other.

President Nixon said that without President Sadat's wisdom, patience and courage it would not have been possible to achieve the breakthrough to peace in the Middle East.

The world owes him a great debt for this, he said. He was confident that his visit would "cement the foundations of a new relationship of the two great peoples."

Looking relaxed and in good spirits, President Nixon stood beside President Sadat in an open Cadillac for the six-mile drive from the airport. With a broad smile he waved and exchanged greetings with the lines of well-wishers. From time to time he singled out someone in the crowd, evoking even more

Continued on page 5, col 1

Noisy protests at Bolshoi first night

By Martin Huckerby

Hundreds of demonstrators stood outside the London Coliseum last night to protest over the first night of the Bolshoi Ballet's visit to Britain. Holding placards saying "USSR: Stop the Bolshoi and persecution of Jews", they lined St Martin's Lane outside the theatre, shouting "Bolshoi out".

At the foot of St Martin's Lane, there was a counter-demonstration by the Palestine Action Campaign, offering "A warm welcome, Bolshoi".

The anti-Bolshoi demonstration, organized by the Soviet Jewry Action Committee of the Board of Jewish Education, included at least five MPs, as well as two girls in black leotards distributing leaflets.

Jubilant Panovs collect visas

Moscow, June 12. Valery and Galina Panov, the ballet dancers, were dancing for joy on the pavements outside Leningrad's visa office today after being handed exit visas to leave for Israel.

Mr Panov said he had completely recovered from a hour of fatigue. Both hoped to fly to Vienna on Friday.—Reuter.

White House surrender on plumbers' case subpoena

From Fred Emery
Washington, June 12

President Nixon today gave in to Judge Gessell in the so-called plumbers case. After his earlier defiance of court subpoenas for Mr John Ehrlichman's White House files, Mr Nixon, through counsel, now agreed to waive his claim of executive privilege.

The judge did not issue a final ruling this evening, with two apparently minor objections outstanding. But court sources predicted he would now restore Mr Ehrlichman to the main case (from which his case had been severed), and order the trial, due to start next Monday, to be postponed at least a week.

Mr Nixon had been warned by the judge Gessell that he was "bordering on obstruction of justice" and acting in a manner "totally offensive" to justice by refusing to allow Mr Ehrlichman to be accompanied by counsel in reviewing his files at the White House.

The judge was particularly indignant over Mr Nixon's claim to be the final judge of the relevancy of the documents to the case; now he has agreed to submit those selected by Mr Ehrlichman to the judge's final in camera inspection.

The action today was similar to Mr Nixon's earlier capitulation to the Federal courts, and further weakened his assertion of "executive privilege" which is supposed to protect the confidentiality of Presidential communications.

It will also have some effect on his appeal, before the Supreme Court, against Judge Gessell's subpoena, which covers over 64 more tapes. These have been subpoenaed by Mr Leon Jaworski, the special Watergate prosecutor, as being required for a fair trial in the main Watergate cover-up case.

In separate proceedings Judge Sirica today told counsel for Mr Baldwin and Mr Ehrlichman to try having "a nice heart to heart talk" with the President, rather than keep up the subpoena pressure for White House documents Mr Nixon refuses to hand over.

"Instead of going through all the courses of the subpoenaed evidence were released, or at least 'try it with the President and see if it works'."

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Labour split on Benn plan for industry as CBI starts fight

By Michael Hatfield
Political Staff

Strenuous efforts are now being made by the Government to halt the damaging effect of its public ownership proposals. Some Cabinet ministers believe the Government is heading for a situation that could be electorally disastrous.

Mr Heath, Leader of the Opposition, was quick to exploit the situation last night, uncharacteristically dabbling the proposal of a potentially durable brand image—"Gospel, the name given to Stalin's disastrous economic plans."

In spite of its efforts, the Government cannot hide the fact that there are serious divisions among ministers over the work of Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, and his colleagues at the Department of Industry. It was the leak of a document prepared by Mr Benn, later made public that started the trouble.

Mr Wilson, in order to control the industrial policy process, took over the chairmanship some weeks ago of the ministerial public enterprise committee, which will oversee the work, but has brought in Mr Callaghan, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, as a member.

The department, writing party that has been preparing the "Greater Britain" or "National Enterprise Board" and a planning agreement system, which was under the chairmanship of Mr Hatters, Minister of State for Industry, has completed its work. The policy commitments in the Labour Party manifesto.

The document will go before the enterprise committee soon. The general expectation was that it would be published before the summer recess, but some ministers have been doubting whether it will see the light of day this side of the general election.

The committee was set up when Labour formed a minority government and Mr Wilson decided to take charge after his first meeting in April. The previous chairman was Mr Short, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House.

The developing divisions in government are not just seen as a struggle between 10 Downing Street and the Department for Industry. Ministers in other departments are adopting essentially left-wing and right-wing stances on the issue.

Mr Benn reiterated the work of his department at a meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party yesterday and showed no signs of backing down. Indeed, in one passage in his speech he appeared to be taking on the threatened challenge of the Conservative Party of British Industry, which said yesterday that it was to campaign vigorously against Mr Benn's proposals.

Mr Benn said: "We ought to resist completely any attempt to use investments as a tool to break the government."

Mr Benn told backbenchers he had become more convinced since taking office that the plan being taken more relevant than before. When questioned he said he needed to strengthen his department to get people of the highest quality, and he had got ideas on how to do about it.

Mr Heath, who obviously believes that the Government has shown its Achilles heel, went on to the attack last night. He told the executive of the National Union of Conservative and Constitutional Parties in London: "It's the same story which we had when Commissioner Bieffer told the Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary what to do about trade with Chile—now it's Commissioner Benn telling us why party policy should be changed."

Mr Wilson's objective, he said, was to "cover up the embarrassing truth about the Labour Party's intentions which Mr Benn has revealed. Mr Heath added: "I know the Conservative Party will not stand for it. We must show the country what Labour are really up to."

Last night a group of shadow front bench spokesmen, including Mr Michael Heseltine, spokesman on trade, and Mr Peter Chamberlain, spokesman on prices, tabled a Commons early day motion stating: "That this House requests the Secretary of State for Industry to cease his destructive attacks on industry."

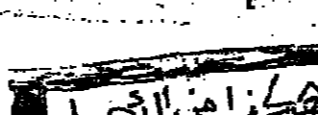
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HOME NEWS

Big arms discoveries in Army's first raids on Orange halls

From Stewart Tendler Belfast Security forces discovered weapons and ammunition yesterday in the first raids on Orange halls in Northern Ireland...

In the Shankill Road men of the 3rd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, searched the caretaker's house next to the West Belfast Orange Hall...

The weapons seized included sporting rifles, a machine pistol, and two army-issue rifles...

Information discovered in the raid led to the arrest of 21 men in the 3rd Battalion, The Light Infantry...

The weapons were all well cared for and wrapped in cloth, but some were issued during the 1914-18 War...

After the first raid a man aged 74 was detained and questioned. Mr Walter Williams, secretary of the Grand Orange Lodge of

Irland, said the arms discoveries were a surprise. "The Orange Order is a non-violent organization," he said...

Representatives of Palestinian, Arab, and Spanish guerrilla groups are expected to attend the conference...

The organisers insist that there will be no former hijackers rubbing shoulders with their members...

Three representatives of Palestinian revolutionary organisations and representatives of Basque and Catalan groups...

The delegates, who will pay \$10 a head for their seven-day stay, will arrive in Dublin on July 22...

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Suspended priest may appeal to Rome 'for justice and a fair trial'

From Arthur Osman Wolverhampton Father Michael Connolly, the suspended Roman Catholic priest, remained defiant yesterday...

Father Connolly said that if necessary he would appeal to Rome 'for justice and a fair trial'.

But he was not apparently defiant enough to carry out parish duties, as he threatened on Tuesday night...

Earlier in the day, promptly at the hour he had indicated, Father Connolly, who has the build and presence of a rugby prop forward...

He read from a thousand-word statement, and at its conclusion declined to answer questions and

walked out. The statement said: I attended the funeral of Michael Gaughan not only because he was a young Irishman who gave his life for his conviction that Irish people should decide the future of Ireland...

Thereby automatically relieved of his priestly duties. If what I said is against the teaching of the Catholic Church, and is proved in an ecclesiastical court where I have a right to defend myself, I accept the decision of the bishop. It is however, what I have said is not against the teaching of my church, but only against the present mood of the press or the present policy of the Government...

Magistrate dismissed over stand on rates. A magistrate has been dismissed after refusing to take action over non-payment of rates...

Mr Benn shuts plar after leak of chemic. The British Steel tion's chemical works i were closed yesterday...

Call for new race laws. Sweeping changes are needed in Britain's immigration laws, including a redefinition of British citizenship...

Weather forecast and recordings. Noon today: Pressure is showing a fall, with rain and squalls...

Today. Sun rises: 4.45 am. Moon rises: 12.49 am. Last Quarter: 2.45 am.

Forecast for 6 am to midnight: London, central S. central W. England, Midlands, Channel Islands: Dry, cloudy; wind NE, light or moderate; max temp 19°C (66°F).

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: cloud 1, fair 1, rain 4, sun 1, thunder.

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Wages policy 'to help Britain out of mess'

By Raymond Perznan Labour Staff The basic form of the voluntary wages policy which the Government should place Phase Three was agreed yesterday by the influential TUC economic committee...

The committee accepted virtually unchanged the confidential draft document, reported in The Times Tuesday, which forms the TUC's part of the "social contract"...

During the economic committee's discussion Mr Lawrence Daly, general secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, made clear that he regarded the 12-month rule as a general principle, not a binding agreement...

Since the Wilberforce inquiry in 1972 the miners have been trying to get back to November 1 as the date from which their pay should be calculated...

Leonard Blackie, aged 20, of the Scots Guards, who is accused of battering his adopted baby son to death, alleged at the Central Criminal Court yesterday that his wife had been subject to epileptic fits, during which she attacked the child...

Lawyers and police support proposal to examine law on drinking and driving. He also objects to the way in which the Act requires a certain formula for arrest...

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HOME NEWS

Commissioner says experimental police teams may have to meet dire London manpower loss

By Clive Borrell

Manpower shortage in the Metropolitan Police force is so acute that uniformed officers are having to work the equivalent of six days a week to maintain patrols.



Sir Robert Mark: Officers leaving London for provincial forces.

That was disclosed yesterday by Sir Robert Mark, Commissioner of Metropolitan Police, who added: "I dread to think how many hours of overtime the detectives have to work."

Sir Robert said they now had about 800 men fewer in the metropolitan force than in 1921, although the provincial forces had risen from 38,000 to 76,000 during the same period.

Referring to his report for 1973, Sir Robert said his force was more than 5,000 men under strength in spite of an expensive recruiting campaign, a substantial pay increase and an improved rent allowance.

"The organization of the 43 forces in England and Wales is excellent, and yet the machinery is impaired because manpower cannot be attracted and distributed where it is needed most," Sir Robert told a press conference at Scotland Yard.

"We cannot go on for ever losing men at this rate without being required to consider new and experimental methods of policing. The best system may have to go in some areas where there is a dire shortage and we would have to rely on team or 'fire brigade' policing, drafting the men into an area when required for emergencies."

A survey to find out why so many men opt for the country forces after a spell in London indicated three main complaints from young officers. The most often repeated complaint concerns the long hours the men have to work, an average of 46 a week. Housing and the high cost of mortgages is a close second, with cost and time spent travelling to and from duty each day a third reason.

Cancellation of police leave at short notice caused strains on family life, Sir Robert said. An unfortunate aspect of London life was the demonstrations which could not be forecast.

"I think that there is a strong case for a special allowance for working in London, as with all other public services. I think that £500 a year is about the minimum we should offer."

Sir Robert, commenting that the force had unprecedented success in detecting crime in 1973, statistics for the first quarter of this year showed that crime was 19 per cent up on the corresponding period for 1973. Homicide and assaults were up 13 per cent, robberies and violent thefts 13 per cent, burglaries 17 per cent, car crimes 32 per cent.

Policing Heathrow: The Metropolitan will take over responsibility for policing Heathrow airport, London, from the British Airports Authority. Constabulary, under the Policing of Airports Bill published yesterday

Nalgo reject TUC's 'cosy pay compact'

The TUC was accused yesterday of "a shocking turnabout" on Phase Three by the 500,000 Strong National and Local Government Officers' Association (Nalgo).

A warning was also given at the association's annual conference in Brighton that there was no reason why Nalgo should join in "the cosy political act" of a social compact.

An emergency motion from the executive declared that it would not support any policy affecting income development created by the TUC and the Government without adequate prior consultation within the TUC, and steps to resolve public sector pay questions.

Mr Neil McLean, chairman of Nalgo's economic committee, said members had been shocked at the TUC turnabout on Phase Three, but even more shocked at the TUC's "cynical treatment" of the association's London-weighting case.

The executive's view was that an important policy departure by the TUC General Council could not be implemented without the consent of affiliated unions. Mr Elwyn Jones, an executive member, said the motion was grossly dishonest because it sought to place responsibility for the association's own faults on the TUC General Council. He said a letter sent by the TUC to all affiliated unions in April, setting out its views on forthcoming wage negotiations, should have been circulated by the executive to delegates.

Government plans £900m outlay on British Rail within three years

By John Grosor Political Staff

A new system of heavy financial support for the railways is contained in the Railways Bill, which was published yesterday. The Bill contains measures to adjust the British Railways Board's capital debt and borrowing powers and to provide for the financing of inherited pension liabilities.

Under the Bill's provisions the Board will be required to act on lines settled with the approval of the Government in formulating its business policies. The Secretary of State for the Environment would be given wider powers to obtain information about the board's activities.

Ministers say the Bill is the result of a review of rail policy started in 1972 under the Conservatives when it became clear that the board's financial position was deteriorating.

The Government believes that the sort of rail network being maintained by the board is needed by the country and that therefore the country has to pay to maintain it. That means a commitment of at least £900m in government spending over the three years beginning next January 1. It more is needed to allow it. The Bill is due to receive its second reading in the Commons on June 24.

While financing on this scale clearly is going to be a burden to the taxpayer, the Government has taken the precaution of writing to almost a hundred big companies in Britain inviting them either to move over or to extend their use of freight services. If that campaign can be made effective, a large part of the financing could be met from industry.

Clause one of the Bill deals with the reconstruction of capital debt. On January 1, next the capital debt the board has incurred with the Government will be reduced from £439m to £250m to reflect a new accounting system whereby most track and signalling expenditure previously on capital account will in future be charged to revenue account.

Stakes driven into cemetery

Vampires were said haunting a London cemetery where stakes were taken through their hearts, Liam Law, foreman of the Cemetery, said at the Criminal Court yesterday.

The prosecution alleged the "vampire" was Roland, aged 28, said to be a priest of the British Society. It says he stole and held nude ritual ceremonies.

Mr Farrant denied charges: damaging a grave, damaging a grave, and three charges of open carcases and in with corpses.

Mr Francis King, an I and writer on black magic, said the court that signs of a vampire in the cemetery of a necromantic cult.

The idea of the ceremony to bring life temporarily to a dead body so that it can be the future of "find treasure" or to send on an evil mission.

Mr Farrant, who is his own defence, said the signs had any do with necromancy. He "I am involved with the side of witchcraft and his to do with black magic. The trial continues to

Clause in Bill 'a licence to lie'

By Our Parliamentary Staff

A clause in the Rehabilitation of Offenders Bill, which it was said appeared to involve a clash between ethics and law, was agreed to by the Commons standing committee on the Bill yesterday after criticism by some members.

Mr Emily Hooson, Liberal member for Montgomeryshire, said the clause enshrined a lie in the law. Mrs Lynda Chalker (Wallasey, C) said it seemed to be a licence to lie.

The purpose of the Bill is to rehabilitate offenders not re-convicted of any serious offence for a number of years, penalize the unauthorized disclosure of previous convictions, and amend the law of defamation.

Mr Weizman (Hackney, North and Stoke Newington, Lab) was concerned about the position of a rehabilitated person who might say in the witness box "I have no previous convictions" when that was an obvious lie.

Mr Lyon said that in this instance they were legislating in order that a man should be able to declare that a lie was the truth. Was it right in the interests of people subject to that kind of spent conviction to allow a rehabilitated person to make a lie into truth, he asked.

"I say 'Yes' and I am prepared to back the principles of the Bill. What we are saying here is that a spent conviction is irrelevant."

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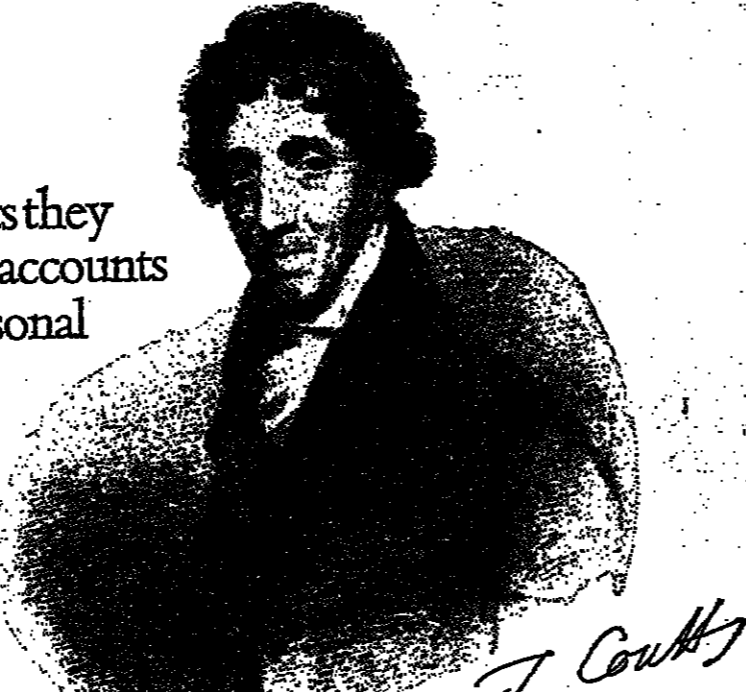


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Mr Wynne drops action BBC spy programme

Mr. Greville Wynne, the British businessman imprisoned in Russia for 18 months for spying, has withdrawn legal proceedings against the BBC over a radio programme about espionage.

He had alleged that the BBC had used parts of his book 'The Masquerade in Moscow' as "character and colour" in the programme 'The Penkovsky Riddle', which should have been broadcast last July in the Radio 4 series 'Great Modern Stories'.

Mr Wynne said the programme would infringe his copyright because material was taken from the book without his authority. Yesterday the BBC and Mr Wynne said in a joint statement that legal proceedings for an injunction for alleged breach of copyright had been withdrawn.

Mr Wynne, while maintaining the propriety of his claim, wishes to repeat what was said on his behalf during the proceedings, namely, that he does not suggest any impropriety in the preparation of the programme on the part of the BBC.

Mr Wynne was granted an injunction on July 5 to prohibit the programme, which was broadcast that day. Later the High Court, banning the programme until the order of the BBC, or order.

The court was told material sources about Oleg Penkovsky, the "double agent" who worked with Mr Wynne in 1953 and prison were strictly confidential and for the "real" one had to turn to Mr Wynne's book. Later the BBC fully applied to the Court of Appeal to have the order set aside.

Mr Wynne was exiled in 1954 for the Soviet spy, Lansdale, who was serving a year sentence.

Mr Wynne said the programme would infringe his copyright because material was taken from the book without his authority. Yesterday the BBC and Mr Wynne said in a joint statement that legal proceedings for an injunction for alleged breach of copyright had been withdrawn.

Constable says dancer invited him into chalet

From Our Correspondent, Norwich. Police Constable Robert John Butolph, accused of raping a dancer, alleged at Norwich Crown Court yesterday that she not only enjoyed having intercourse with him but invited him to do so.

PC Butolph, aged 27, a married man, of Lingwood, Norfolk, has pleaded not guilty to raping a dancer with the Black and White Minstrel Show.

On the night he was concerned, he took the dancer to a chalet on a walk by the riverside. He saw a light on outside one of the chalets and there was a young woman in the driveway closing the double gates.

He said he asked if she was staying there and she replied that she was there on her own. "I said it was a nice night but a bit cold and she said: 'come inside', and I did."

PC Butolph said the dancer got round to sex and the young woman he had had children for medical reasons. "I had intercourse twice and three acts of oral sex."

PC Butolph said that day or the next "as what was happening was a birthday present" he appeared to be enjoying was going on.

Later, he added, she was agitated and upset because she did not want to become a man. She insisted on him back to his car.

The next time he knew the dancer was when he reported a rape in a paper the next evening. The trial continues to

Father gets five years for cruelty to girl

Ram Chand, aged 38, father of eight children, was sent to prison at Birmingham Crown Court yesterday for five years after being found guilty of cruelty to his daughter, aged three.

Mr Chand, of Murdock Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, was found not guilty of causing grievous bodily harm to the girl, but guilty of causing grievous bodily harm and guilty of cruelty to a person under 16.

Mr Alan Arsell, for the prosecution, had said the girl, Jane Kaur, was admitted to hospital with severe burns to her face and as a result of infection two thirds of her right foot had to be amputated.

In evidence, Mr Chand denied putting his daughter's feet near or on to the fire. He said he had never done anything to his daughter's legs to cause her harm, he said.

Police find M daughter in barn after sea

Judith Rost, aged daughter of Mr Peter Conservative MP, for Shire, South-east, who was missing from home since day morning, was found night after a 36-hour sea.

Two detectives found a barn a quarter of a mile from her home at Berkhamstead, Hertfordshire.

More than 50 policemen and a helicopter searched the area, who said: "I the barn and stayed the of the time. I did go occasionally and she very nice. I slept on son of hay inside, and all I to eat are some ears of corn."

Mr Rost said: "We're happy that she's back safe and sound and I thank or praise the enough."

Ombudsman post for Lady Serota

Lady Serota was appointed yesterday as one of the first three local government ombudsmen. The commissioners will investigate complaints of maladministration against local authorities and water authorities in England and Wales.

The other commissioners are Mr D. B. Harrison, aged 56, former Town Clerk of Sheffield, and Mr J. P. Cook, aged 41, chief executive of the English Tourist Board.

Duke's service on TV. The funeral service for the Duke of Gloucester, at St. George's, Windsor, will be shown on BBC-1 television, starting at 10.50 am. The first royal funeral service to be televised.

Birmingham Art Gallery damage char

A man accused of damage estimated at £30,000 to works of art in Birmingham Art Gallery on was remanded in custody Birmingham Magistrate yesterday until June 21.

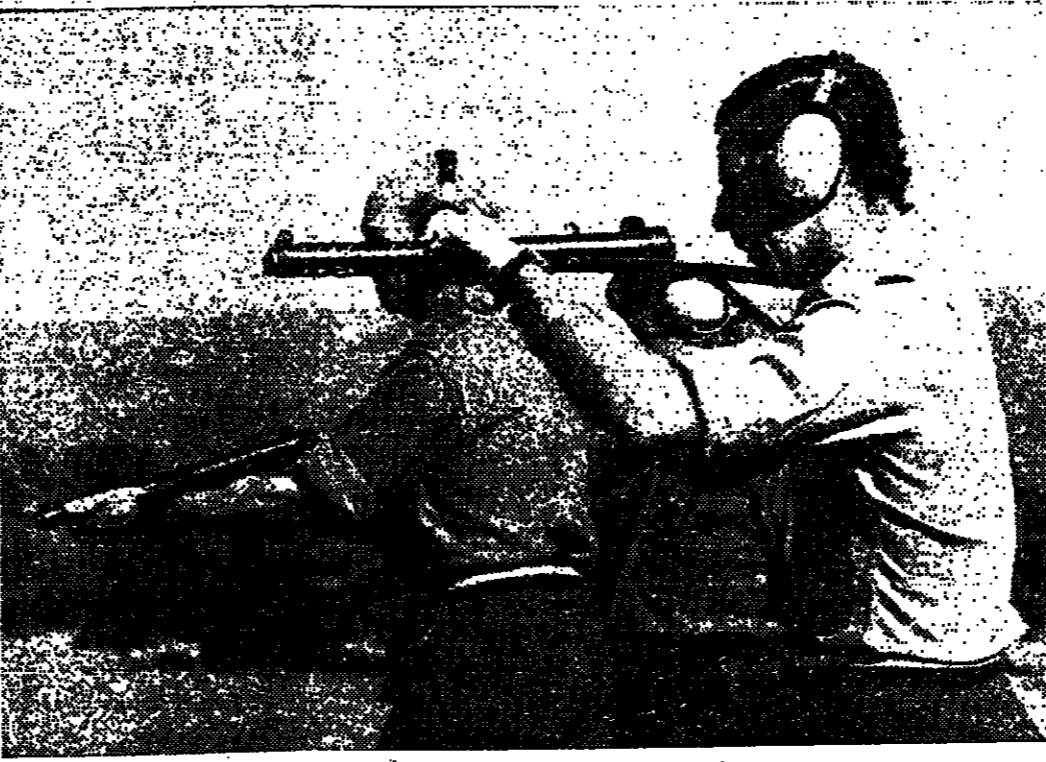
Brian Peter Hanson, of no fixed address, is with damaging or destruction of Cardinal Ma Lorenzoni Ottolenghi, a bronze statue of Prosperina by Gianlorenzo Banti, of the Grand Duke Cosimo Novelli, and a painting of Tempted in the Wilder Paulus Brull.

Miners' left-wing leaders issuing charter for coalfields to stir itancy over pay and conditions

London (Reuters) - Left-wing leaders of the Union of Mineworkers issued a charter for coalfields to stir itancy over pay and conditions.

The charter, which is being distributed to miners in the coalfields, demands a 10 per cent increase in wages, a 50 per cent increase in the cost of living allowance, and a 10 per cent increase in the cost of living allowance.

The charter also demands a 10 per cent increase in the cost of living allowance, a 50 per cent increase in the cost of living allowance, and a 10 per cent increase in the cost of living allowance.



The Prince of Wales taking part in a firing exercise yesterday with the 4th Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales, at Knock Camp, Salisbury Plain. He is colonel-in-chief of the regiment.

'Open' students group threatened by rifts

London (Reuters) - The 10,000-strong students' association at the Open University is threatened by rifts between its leaders.

The association's first president, resigned last month, is expected to be replaced by a new president at a meeting on Saturday.

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Flixborough claims 'over £30m'

London (Reuters) - Flixborough is only the latest in a series of disasters the London insurance market has had to cope with this year.

Others include the Queensland floods, the United States tornado in April and the first loss of a wide-bodied jet in the crash outside Paris.

Maplin gravel might cut cost

London (Reuters) - The original estimate of engineering cost for the first stage of land reclamation from the sea off the Essex coast was £210m.

But studies made by the authority had shown that the land could be provided for £110m, while gravel could be obtained very cheaply as a result of reclamation work and would save a further £40m or more.

Man burnt to death in cigarette

London (Reuters) - A 20-year-old man was burnt to death yesterday for smoking a cigarette in a public place.

The man, who was identified as a student, was found dead in a public place.

Solicitor 'lived in world of fantasy'

London (Reuters) - A solicitor who was said to have a personality handicap was ordered by the Law Society's Disciplinary Committee yesterday to be struck off for professionally unbecoming conduct.

The committee said the solicitor, Mr James Hayes, aged 60, of Warwick Road, Worsley, Manchester, who was admitted as a solicitor in 1937, was found guilty of failing to honor a professional undertaking and failing to deal with the affairs of two clients with reasonable expedition.

Choose a candidate

London (Reuters) - Brian Baxter, a Swaffham, as their parliamentary candidate for South-west Norfolk.

Baxter, a former candidate, resigned his seat in 1970.

to cut cost of taking cases to court

London (Reuters) - The recommendations of Justice would give greater powers to a master of the Supreme Court, the judicial officer who deals with civil cases before they come before a judge in court.

A master would be able to decide some of the issues on the written documents presented by the parties, so that only the central issues seriously in dispute would reach the trial court.

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HOME NEWS

Family doctors reject resignation over pay but plan secret move

By John Roper Medical Reporter

Family doctors are not prepared to make their deep concern about their falling standards of living a resignation issue. But if reasoned argument on what they see as an irrefutable case for increases in their pay is rejected by the Government they have plans for a new type of action.

The representatives of 23,000 general practitioners at the conference of local medical committees at the British Medical Association headquarters yesterday voted against several motions calling for resignation from the National Health Service over pay. The disquiet among them was reflected by the 141 motions about remuneration on the agenda.

There was criticism of the Government for its failure to publish the current report of the Review Body on Doctors' and Dentists' Remuneration in time for it to be considered by the conference. It was said that the report had been with the Government since May 17 and the delay in publishing (it is due out next Tuesday) was seen as a deliberate political move.

Dr E. B. Ridge, acting chairman of the General Medical Services Committee, said he expected that the report would

fall within Phase Three and that would mean that the fall in doctors' pay compared with salaries generally would reach about 18 per cent. When the statutory incomes policy ended next month, they must decide how to protect their standards of living.

Their case would be based on the implications for the quality of care of persistent under-financing of the health service and on the implications of a serious trend for the numbers of principals in general practice to decline. In the first half of 1972 the net increase in the number of principals was 145. Since then the total had steadily declined and in the second half of last year the net change was minus 41.

If reasoned argument failed they would have to make the public realise the true cost in present money values of an effective level of medical care. They had devised a new technique which given the support of all family doctors, could achieve the result they sought.

Details of this technique were not disclosed. Dr Ridge said later in the debate that resignation should be reserved for the time when things had gone so far wrong with the health service that they were forced to the conclusion that it had ceased to be a safe medium through which to provide care for their patients.

'Illegal' syllabus puzzle

Teachers of religious education will have to change their methods if the legal opinion of a Birmingham barrister, that the city's new syllabus contravenes the 1944 Education Act, is upheld, Miss Sheila Wright, chairman of the education committee, said yesterday. She has asked the Department of Education and Science to give a ruling on the proposed syllabus, which includes a section on communism.

majority of religious teachers in the country offer broad-based courses rather than straightforward religious instruction.

A barrister retained by the city solicitor has advised that the syllabus is not specific enough to meet the terms of the 1944 Education Act, that refer to religious instruction. The barrister quotes the Oxford English Dictionary definition of the word "syllabus" as "concise statement" or "table of heads of discourse".



Many young children watch TV after 9 pm

By Kenneth Gosling

A study prepared for the BBC's General Advisory Council contains evidence that many young children still watch television after 9 pm and that some stay up until the adults finish watching.

Figures accompanying the study, which was carried out during the spring school term, were published yesterday, showing how many children were watching television between 7.30 and 11 pm.

In the half-hour between 7.30 and 8 pm 4 per cent of five to seven-year-olds, 65 per cent of eight to 11-year-olds and 61 per cent of 12 to 14-year-olds were watching. In the next half-hour the figures were 25, 64, and 66 per cent respectively. Between 9 and 9.30 pm the figures were 7, 27, and 51.

The figures dropped in the next half-hour—5, 21 and 42 per cent of the five to seven-year-olds, 7 per cent of the eight to 11-year-olds and 18 per cent of 12 to 14-year-olds were still watching.

The report also says that no matter how much information about a programme is published in advance, there are many homes in which it is not read. "Whatever the reasons for this indifference, it is almost certain that children in homes such as these who are most in need of protection."

However, the BBC's "water-shed" policy, under which programmes more suitable for adults are shown after 9 pm, still offered the best practical protection for children.

The report says of the argument that listening to Radio 1 disc jockeys encourages sloppy speech: "In many children, especially those retarded by living in a home where communication is usually in monosyllables, are helped to communicate by listening to such programmes."

Children as Viewers and Listeners. BBC Publications, 35 Marylebone High Street, W1; published free.

First made: London Transport has approved its first poster showing a made. It publicises a West End play, Life Class, in which Miss Rosemary Martin (above) is an artist's model.

£200 fines on wreck strippers

Two men involved in stripping the sunken wreck of the steamship Solami off the Northumberland coast were each fined £200 at Belford Magistrates' Court, Northumberland, yesterday on explosives charges.

Harry Hemsley, aged 39, of Charlton Place, and Douglas Frederick Harner, aged 34, of Western Road, both Leeds, partners in the firm of Ocean Diving Services, admitted storing explosives, gelignite and electro detonators in unlawful places at Seahouses harbour and on board a boat at Amble.

WEST EUROPE

French communist leader takes leaf from de Gaulle's book in call to 'workers and patriots'

From Charles Hargrove Paris, June 12

Everyone is competing for the favours of the centre-left, in the context of the French political scene which was brought about by the last presidential election. Yesterday M Michel Jobert, the former Foreign Minister announced that he was launching a new "regrouping" of the forces of the centre-left, which would include those progressive Gaullists who feel orphaned by the failure of M Jacques Chaban-Delmas's candidature.

New M Georges Marchais, General Secretary of the Communist Party, taking a leaf out of General de Gaulle's own book, has issued an appeal to "workers and patriots" to join a "vast national and popular movement in which different parties will find a place side by side while preserving their independence and original character".

He told a meeting of his party's Central Committee yesterday that if the advanced section of the working class was committed to the idea of socialism, "the majority of our people is not yet ready to go over to it". It was not to

socialism that the party wished to win over the mass of those who had not yet joined the struggle for purely democratic objectives but to the democratic objectives themselves.

"We think that later, on the basis of their experience and of the political and ideological action we shall pursue, they will in turn come to hope for the victory of socialism", M Marchais said.

He emphasised at a press conference this morning that what was involved was "not socialism but reforms". There was no question of "beginning to create the socialist society".

However, the reforms were not meant to leave the existing capitalist society fundamentally unchanged. They involved "far-reaching democratic reforms which would strike a first blow at the domination of the union of the left was within reach, M Marchais added.

"To achieve a new leap forward, we must become penetrators with this idea—to do everything, absolutely everything, with unprecedented boldness, to extend the union of socialist and political forces which want a policy of social progress,

democracy and national independence, and are ready to fight together to make this programme prevail".

At the same time, the Communist Party was not willing to be relegated to second or third place within the union of the left. It was determined to remain the first party in order to put an end to capitalist domination in France, and would reinforce its own ranks and its appeal in the country with this end in view.

The National Assembly made another attempt today at reproducing a Westminster-style "question time", in accordance with the wish of President Giscard d'Estaing to live in parliamentary debates.

It was not altogether convincing, but it was an improvement on the weekly question d'actualité, introduced a couple of years ago, which consisted in ministers reading out prepared answers to queries in an almost empty House, with the questioner himself often not even taking the trouble to be present.

Today's performance was still a far cry from the impromptu, hard-hitting Westminster dialogue between the Government and MPs.

EEC plan for aid to developing nations

From Roger Berthoud Brussels, June 12

An outline of project developing countries next five years shows that as much as being earned countries not associated European Community associates.

Twenty countries, African have enjoyed aid benefits of a status. With another 24 Caribbean and Pacific mainly from the Comm they are at present negotiating new agreements.

The five-year outline drawn up by the dev aid ministers of the N they meet in Luxembourg tomorrow. It was called Mrs. Judith Hart, the Minister, at the last April 30.

Mrs Hart's main aim meeting was to suggest highly populated and stricken Asian countries India and Bangladesh as much aid as the a countries, which are cases relatively pr India's subsequent nvestment is not l strengthen the minister.

Mrs Hart may refer to the aid pr which the European Co has now produced. T that the biggest slice funds benefiting non-a countries is in the form aid.

Both the British and regard this as a mere i which, if anything, ret structural reforms nec remedy endemic povert

The aid commitment EEC for the coming fi as outlined by the Co and expressed in u account (pre-1974 dolla to the pound) include: the European Dev Fund (for the 14 states ing a new agreement EEC) between 2,500 3,500m over five years.

Food aid, mainly f associated countries— 500m a year.

Aid for Tunisia, I Algeria and Malta w Mediterranean policy— 50m a year. Agreem concluded with Lebanon and Egypt are pected to include aid.

Special aid proposi the energy price exp 420m spread over 1974 only. A decision on this required.

Special aid for the afflicted Sahel area, pledged—40m for 1974. Special aid for Pal refugees, mainly for f education.

Test missile crashes near camping site

From Our Correspondent Madrid, June 12

With the peak of the holiday season approaching, hotel owners in Benidorm are threatening to cancel their foreign package tour contracts unless the Government helps them to obtain an 18 per cent price rise.

In an open letter to Senor Pio Caballeros, Minister of Tourism and Tourism, representatives of the Association of Hospitality and Tourism in Benidorm disclosed that Costa Blanca hoteliers have already asked foreign tour operators for an 18 per cent supplement on this year's contracts. The letter said that the tour operators unanimously refused.

Hotel owners claim that their costs have risen so much that they would lose money if they honoured present contracts. They said that if the ministry cannot help them financially, it should demand that foreign tour operators pay the 18 per cent supplement.

If they do not get the increase, the hoteliers say, they will cancel the contracts. They point out that this would have a bad effect on those employed in

Spanish hoteliers threaten to cancel package tours

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the tourist industry on the Costa Blanca.

Although they did not say so, the rescinding of contracts would cause serious complications for tour operators who would be confronted with a surplus in the high season with no hotels for their clients.

The open letter told the minister: "We leave in your hands two things which we consider vital for our survival and the survival of the families we support through their work in our establishments."

Among costs which have risen sharply during the inflation from which Spain is suffering, the hoteliers mentioned cooking gas, fuel oil, electricity, salaries and social security taxes. They estimated that even if their hotels were full all the season they would still have to charge each client 25p more a day than last year.

A leading article in the latest issue of the Spanish tourist industry's journal complained that the Government spent nearly as much on Spain's participation in the recent Sao Paulo trade fair as it spends in a year on tourist promotion around the world.



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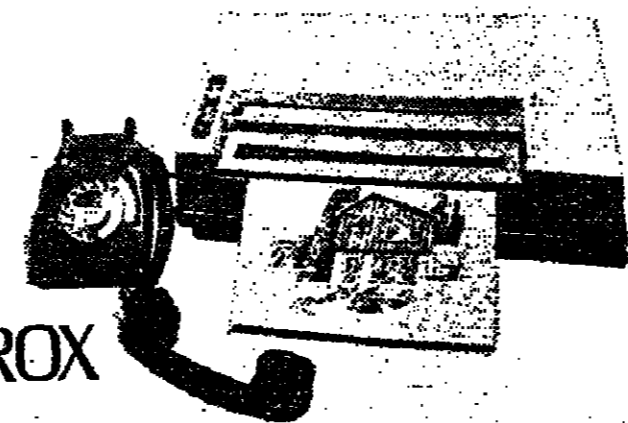
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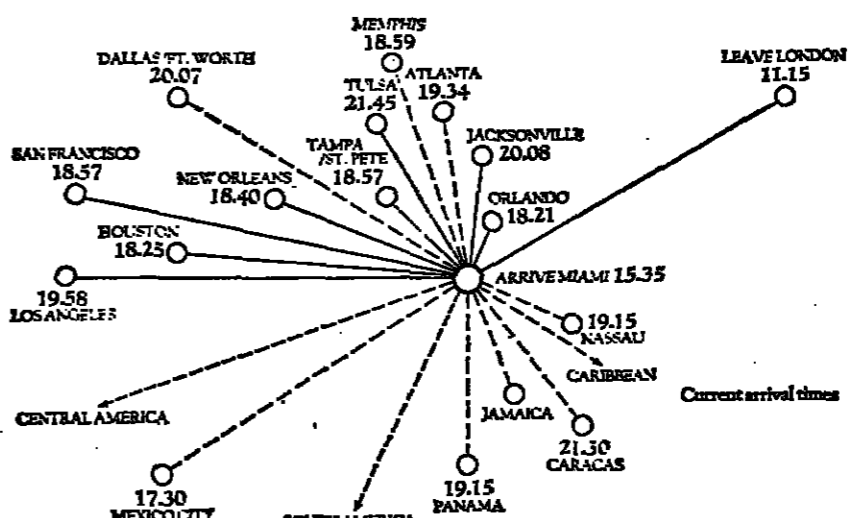
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A new train/ship service to Brussels operates every night of the year, leaving London Victoria Station at 21.30 hours and arriving in Brussels at 06.29 hours. There's a new low fare on this service—£10 return—which saves you over £5 on the standard fare. So you'll have a bit of spare cash to make the most of your visit.

Sealink are now operating more sailings, too—a minimum of 6 a day to and from Ostend and on to Brussels. Ask your nearest principal railway station or Sealink appointed travel agent about these Inter-City/Sealink low fares, also available from London to Paris (£12 return) and Amsterdam/Rotterdam (£17.40 return).

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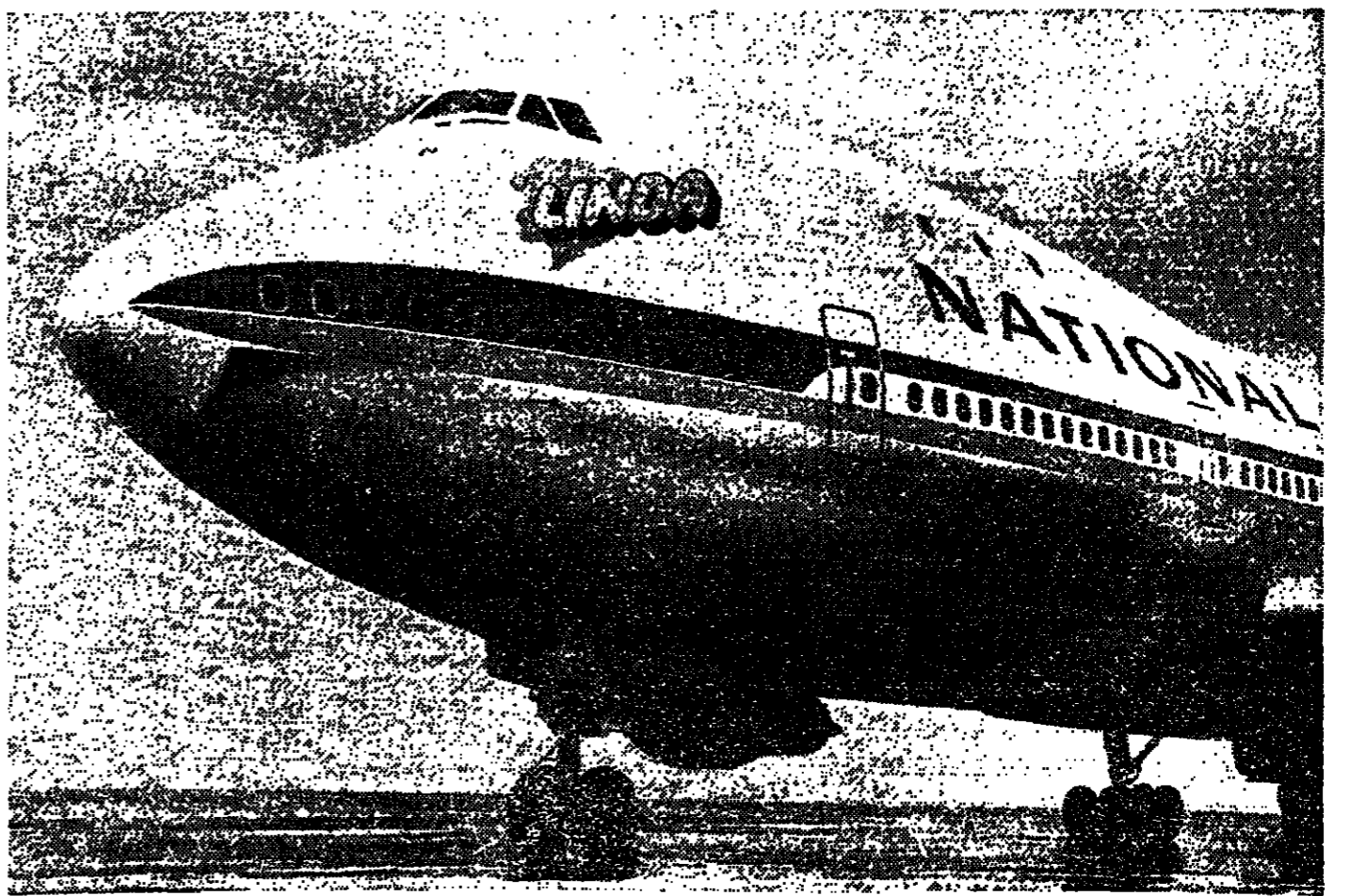


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Specialists and Republicans state their conditions for backing new centre-left coalition Cabinet

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Crisis talks: Signor Enrico Berlinguer, the Communist Party leader, leaving the Presidential Palace yesterday after being consulted by President Leone.

He appealed in the name of all Italian industrialists for a prompt solution to the problem of forming a new government.
The political mathematics of the crisis offer little indication of where the solution can be sought with the exception that any foreseeable administration will be led by a Christian Democrat. The position in the two Houses is as follows (Parties asterisked belonged to or supported the outgoing Government):

Parties	Chamber	Senate
Christian Democrats (*)	288	137
Socialists (*)	81	34
Social Democrats (*)	21	12
Republicans (*)	15	12
Communists	175	74
Proletarian-Unity	20	10
Frontists	20	10
MSI (Neo-Fascist)	55	26
Others	7	8
	629	312

The Republicans, who backed the last Government without accepting ministries, have placed weighty conditions on their support of a new government.
Signor Ugo la Malfa, their leader and a former Minister of the Treasury in the last Government but one, says that he would back a government "which, providing the necessary democratic guarantees, has a severe and rigorous programme, such as would stop the

further decline of the country and open the road to its difficult, laborious and hard revival.
"And the Government would only be supported in so far as its actions corresponded to its promises", he stated. If such a government should emerge from the current crisis, Italy would indeed be on a fresh political path.
Signor Enrico Berlinguer, the Communist Party leader, said on leaving the Presidential Palace after having been consulted by President Leone:
"Apart from the internal differences within the coalition, the crisis throws light on the basic contradiction in the Italian political situation. On the one hand, there is the reality of a country rich in energy, working capacity and democratic will; on the other, there are governments, with confused and incoherent approaches, devoid of moral vigour and unstable."
He added that this situation could not continue. The country needed a political system capable of using the great potentialities of the workers and of the people, and by this he meant, he said, "A government based on the collaboration of all the popular forces."
Italian lesson for Europe, page 18

Nato happy over US nuclear strategy

Oslo, June 12
From Our Correspondent
The American nuclear counterforce strategy gained general approval when the two-day meeting of the Nato nuclear planning group ended in Bergen today. The strategy was regarded as being in line with the general Nato idea of "flexible response".
During the talks, Mr James Schlesinger, United States Secretary of Defence, explained the American position concerning the so-called "mini-nucs", the smallest of nuclear devices which can be used with small conventional weapons. He said this type of weapon did not accord with American views and interests.
It belonged to the "grey" area where the borderline between nuclear and non-nuclear weapons was blurred. The United States put greater emphasis on conventional weapons and the perfection of accuracy and "cleanness" of nuclear weapons.
During discussion of the East-West balance, it was disclosed that Russia's technological progress had been faster than expected. This was especially so for multi-warhead nuclear weapons. This seemed to imply a threat to America's technological superiority in production of key weapons.
Mr Schlesinger showed ministers and military chiefs satellite pictures of various aspects of Russia's development of more sophisticated nuclear weapons.
The position of the Netherlands aroused some concern because of reductions in its defence budget which the present Government is committed.
Mr Vredeling, the Dutch Minister of Defence, gave an assurance that the reductions would not in any way affect the outcome of discussions going on about mutually balanced reduction of forces in Central Europe.
The Dutch combat-ready forces would be kept at their present level pending the outcome of these negotiations, he said. But delegates were apprehensive that Holland's defence capacity might be affected.
Countries represented at the meeting were the United States, Canada, Britain, West Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Greece and Norway.

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Italian lesson for Europe, page 18

Danish tax case MP loses his immunity

From Our Correspondent
Copenhagen, June 12
The Danish Folketing today removed the parliamentary immunity of M Mogens Glistrup, the Progress Party leader, to allow the state attorney to indict him provisionally on fraud, tax evasion and other charges.
Mr Glistrup has been under investigation since he claimed three years ago that he had arranged investments so that he paid no income tax. Today's vote was 134 in favour of removing immunity with 26 opposed.
In voting against the removal of immunity, the Progress Party argued that the charges were unfounded. Mr Karl Skytte, president of the Folketing, answered that "in our modern parliamentary system the use of the courts by a government as a form of political pressure against a member must be... very difficult to conceive".

Arrested woman seen by consul

Berlin, June 12—Susan Ballantine, a 29-year-old American, was seen by the British Vice-Consul today had her first contact with the outside world since her arrest 11 days ago for allegedly trying to smuggle her East German boyfriend to the West.
The British Vice-Consul met Miss Ballantine, aged 22, from Cheltenham, for 30 minutes at East Berlin's state security headquarters and found her in good shape, an embassy spokesman said.—Reuter.

Singer killed in Cannes shooting

Cannes, June 12—Herb Coleman, a 46-year-old tenor of the American vocal group, the Delta Rhythm Boys, was shot and killed outside the Palm Beach Casino here at dawn today.
A 28-year-old Frenchman was detained.

Quality of Italian espionage results 'bewilderingly low'

From Our Own Correspondent
Rome, June 12
Signor Andreotti, the Minister of Defence, made the remarkable confession in an interview published today that a great deal of money was spent on the official secret service but the standard of the results was "bewilderingly low".
The Minister's statement to the periodical *Il Mondo* could be taken as reassuring, but Signor Andreotti was clearly not intending to set people's minds at rest.
He confirmed the Fascist secret services of May, 1971, calling for the reorganization of the military counter-intelligence service and the destruction of the files it possessed on Italian citizens had been totally ignored. He said: "Nothing at all has been done. The risk with us is—much is created but nothing is destroyed."
A parliamentary commission which in 1969 and 1970 studied the problem of the military secret services, which are the heart of the security system, found that it had 157,000 files on Italians to which it is said at least another 34,000 have been added including files on industrialists, journalists, judges, politicians and trade unionists.

The secret services, particularly military counter-espionage, have lately been under renewed attack, not only for flouting Parliament's wishes but for alleged inefficiency, complicity with subversive elements and a general failure to have changed its ways, despite what Parliament had to say three years ago.
One of the results last month of the Brescia bomb, which killed seven people at an anti-fascist demonstration, was the promise that a new department to combat political terrorism would be set up to replace the Ministry of the Interior's department for security matters.
All this would warrant little more than a shrug of the shoulder if it were not for the fact that Rome is unhappily and characteristically, a centre for international espionage. It is natural that the local security services should consequently be in demand by other people's espionage services.
Certainly the abolition of the Department for Security matters which Signor Andreotti welcomed as a step in the right direction will have deprived some of the Western services at work here of their immediate contacts.

EEG left sends help to Lisbon

Strasbourg, June 12—The Socialist group in the European Parliament is to provide its colleagues in Portugal with \$20,000 (about £3,500) and advice for setting up a new party organization.

Basques jailed for 40 years

Santander, June 12—A military court here last night sentenced two members of the illegal Basque separatist organization ETA to 30 years' imprisonment for their part in the kidnapping of a wealthy industrialist.

Priest sent recruits to Frelimo

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, June 12
A Spanish missionary priest expelled from Mozambique last year admitted here today that he sent young Africans to join Frelimo—the Mozambique Liberation Front.
The priest's disclosures confirmed the close relationship between some European Catholic missionaries and Frelimo which was alleged by Portuguese authorities before the fall of the regime of Dr. Marcello Caetano.
Father Jose Maria Lechundi, of the Burgos Fathers based in Madrid, said that he and a fellow Spanish priest secretary returned to Mozambique this year via Tanzania and he was inside the Portuguese colony, in Frelimo-lead territory, at the time of the military coup in Lisbon on April 25. He identified his companion on the trip as Father Vicente Berenguer.
Father Lechundi also claimed that Frelimo fighters shot down

three Rhodesian Fiat aircraft at Fugoo, near Tete, last March. He said two other Rhodesian Air Force aircraft were shot down at Cabo Delgado.
Speaking with undisguised sympathy for the African nationalist movement, the Basque-born priest added that he is convinced that Frelimo will not agree to negotiate with Portugal about the future of Mozambique until the Portuguese agree to independence for the colony. He said Frelimo are not convinced by promises of self-determination made by President Spínola.
Describing Frelimo training camps known as "Live-boxes" he said that an English woman and two Dutch couples were among teachers employed in Tanzania to give Frelimo recruits a basic education. He did not identify the English school teacher. He claimed that Frelimo had taught a million Africans to read and write.
Father Lechundi said that he

and Father Berenguer spent 45 days in southern Tanzania and inside Mozambique at the invitation of Frelimo. He spoke of hospitals, schools and supply centres for the guerrilla movement in the Tanzanian towns of Tunduru, Bagamoyo and Mtwara. He did not disclose the location of guerrilla installations inside Mozambique.
Educational facilities at Tunduru included a primary school, and at Bagamoyo a high school. At Mtwara there is a Frelimo hospital and an intermediate school. He claimed that the medical facilities are generally better than those available to jungle dwellers living under Portuguese rule in Mozambique.
The missionary admitted that the ideology of Frelimo is "African, atheist and Marxist", but added that the organization was willing to cooperate with some missionaries because of their desire to help the Africans.

Party Europe

Political
June 12
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OVERSEAS

AU meeting opens with Waldheim message of hope

disu, June 12.—Leaders of African countries met for their 10th annual conference... Waldheim Secretary of the United Nations...

Seventy nations take part in a 100-day scrutiny of the world's 'heat engine' Huge weather watch begins this weekend

From Alan McGregor Geneva, June 12. A big effort to fill in some of the gaps in weather forecasting begins on Saturday... The tropical area has been selected because of the location there of the 'heat engine'...

Solzhenitsyn accuses apologists of 'red terror'

Paris, June 12.—In the second volume of The Gulag Archipelago Alexander Solzhenitsyn, the exiled Soviet author, accuses Bertrand Russell of having acted as an apologist for Soviet slave labour camps...

Huge hunt for killers of police chief

From Our Correspondent Kuala Lumpur, June 12. The police today distributed likenesses drawn from witnesses' descriptions of the two young men who murdered Mr Tan Sri Abdul Rahman Bin Hashim, the Inspector General of Police, last Friday...

Savory 'would have been a black terrorist'

Correspondent June 12. In Savory, the former of the Rhodesia Party, he had been born a Rhodesian... He also told a party that the demand for a new constitution...

US offers to mediate in the Aegean

Istanbul, June 12.—The American ambassador told Mr Turan Gunes, the Turkish Foreign Minister, that America was ready to mediate in the Greek-Turkish quarrel over their territorial water limits...

Envoy's attacker jailed

Bangkok, June 12.—A Thai man has been sentenced to 33 years imprisonment for attempting to rob and murder a British diplomat...

Filipino troops kill guerrilla chief

Manila, June 12.—Mr Felix Salac, known as Commander Pelaez, the supreme Huk guerrilla leader, has been killed in an armed clash with government troops...

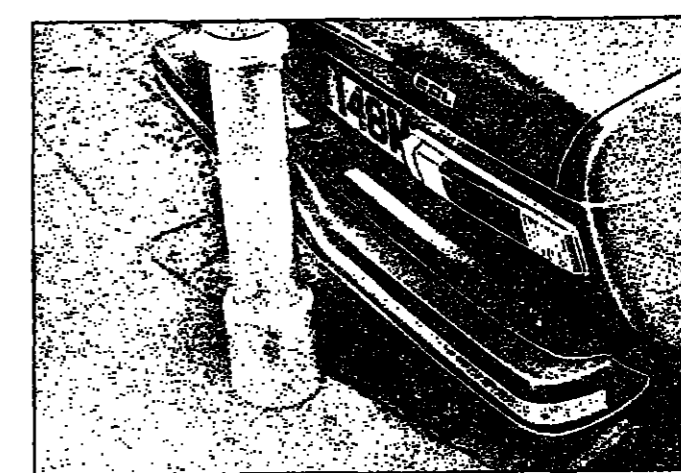
Guineans held in Eritrean jails

June 12.—Eritrean soldiers holding four American and Canadian hostages... all six hostages were held in the Texas-based 1 Co...

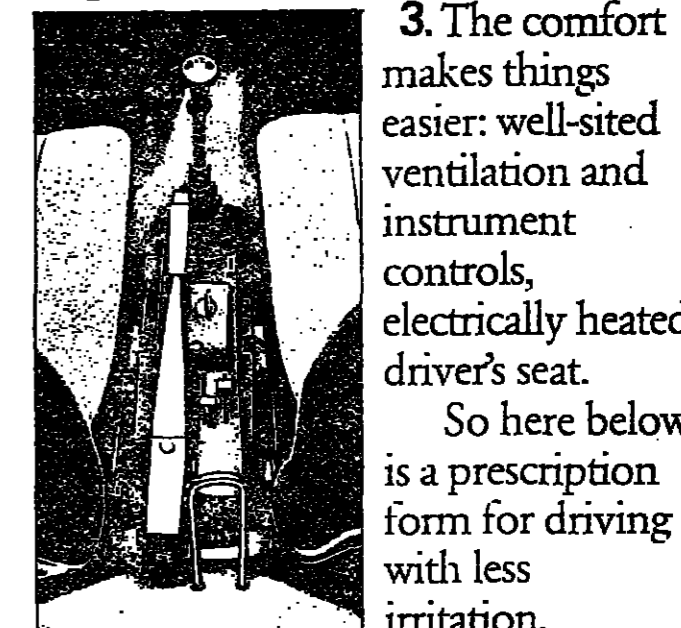
Why you lose your temper while driving.

Most cars won't push up your blood pressure on an easy, uncluttered stretch of motorway. It's when you're driving in heavy traffic that stress builds up... So tempers build up, blood pressures rise, hearts beat faster, drivers swear.

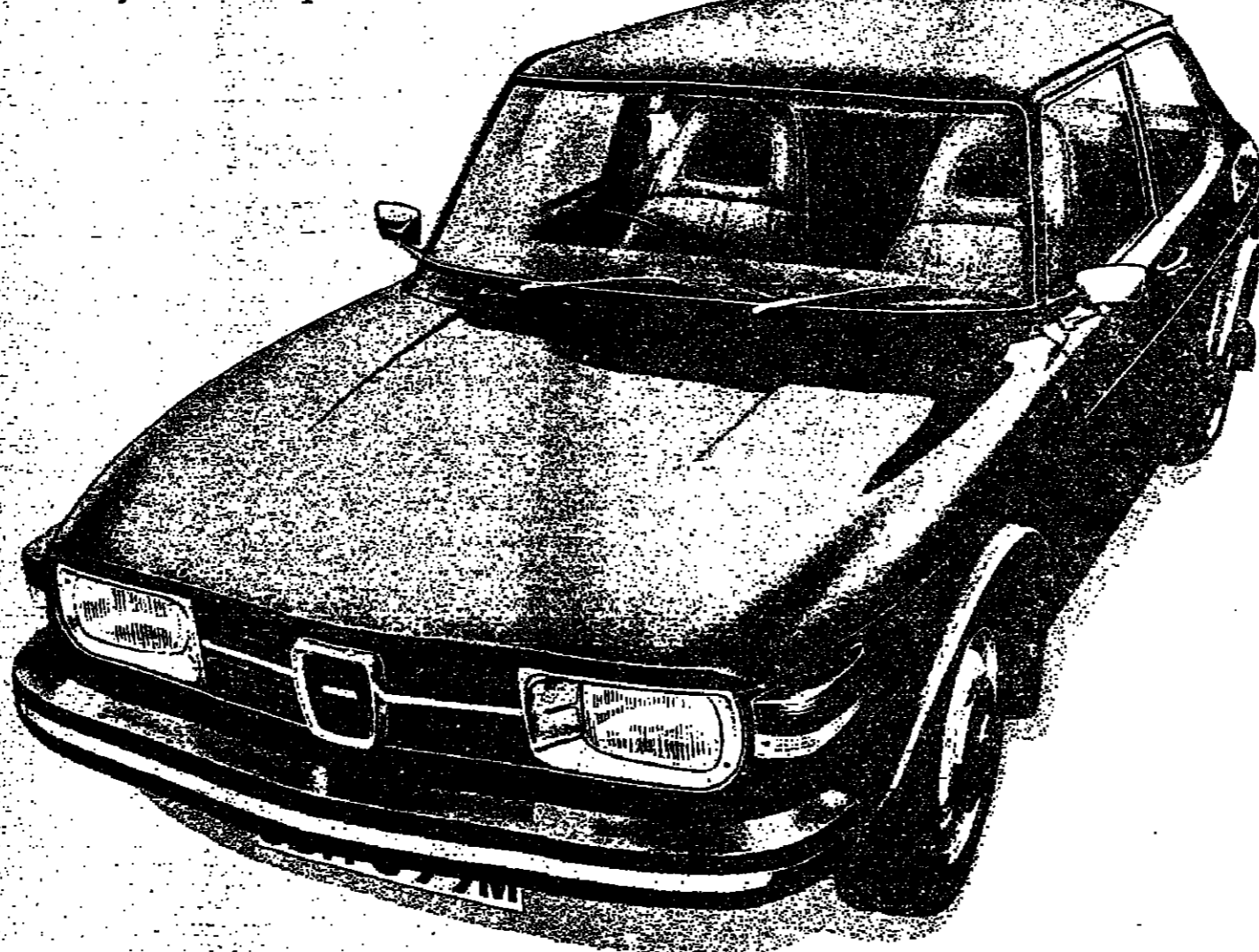
We can claim to lessen some of the irritability that comes with driving. For three reasons: 1. High-precision engineering from a company that produces supersonic aircraft... 2. Every Saab is packed full of safety features... 3. The comfort makes things easier: well-sited ventilation and instrument controls...



you're immediately reassured. The heavy bump-absorbing bumpers help, too.



Write it out for yourself. And take regularly for the next 11 years. (That's how long you could be driving the Saab you buy now*)



Whitlam says voting system will be changed

Correspondent June 12. Though Whitlam, the Prime Minister, said legislation is being simplified the electoral system... Whitlam said he would have authority over the Priorities Review Staff...

Papua ministry stormed by angry women

Port Moresby, June 12.—Angry women today smashed their way into Papua-New Guinea's administrative centre here, during a wild demonstration against inflation...

Australian envoy snubbed by Chinese officials

Bonavia Foreign Ministry tonight snubbed Dr Gerald, the Australian ambassador, and three resilient correspondents to turn up at a reception to which they were invited...

Whitlam says voting system will be changed

Investigate all foreign investment proposals. Explaining the new economic responsibilities of Dr Jim Cairns, the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Whitlam said he would have authority over the Priorities Review Staff...

SAAB Saab 99L 2 litre 2 door or 4 door from £2092 Saab 99LE Automatic 2 litre 4 door £2490 Saab 99EMS Special 2 litre 2 door electronic manual in metallic silver with tinted glass and aluminium wheels £2572 Recommended retail prices ex-works including VAT, car tax and safety belts.

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Go swift. Go safe. Go Saab. *Swedish Motor Vehicle Inspection Authority annual report 1973.

PARLIAMENT June 12, 1974

Retailers agree to concentrate price cuts on basic items: scheme to last until next March

House of Commons. MRS SHIRLEY WILLIAMS, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection (Herford and Stevenage) made an announcement on a voluntary agreement on prices of basic household items. She said: As the House is aware, I have been concerned since my appointment to take action to reduce the rate of inflation. To this end, I have introduced subsidies on certain foodstuffs. The cuts that have been made in retailers' gross margin reference levels (which will in practice mean considerably greater cuts in their net profit) are exerting considerable pressure on prices, both of food and other household goods.

Proposal 'verging on ridiculous'

MR CEANNON (Southend, West) called for a sensible agreement which does something to help reduce inflation but what she put forward is verging on the ridiculous. Conservative, Chester and Labour protests. How can the Secretary of State, for example, expect to bring down inflation when she and the Government are engaged in the greatest increase in the Retail Price Index since records began, nearly all of which was because of the direct action of the Retail Price Index?

Extraordinary

MRS WILLIAMS—I find Mr Ceannon's remarks extraordinary because his first step was to say that the Government is engaged in the greatest increase in the Retail Price Index since records began, nearly all of which was because of the direct action of the Retail Price Index. It is pure hypocrisy to pretend that the Government have been concerned to reduce the rate of inflation. What she proposes will have a direct effect on the Retail Price Index or the general level of prices. Some prices will be kept steady and as a result the price of the basket of goods will have to go up to compensate for these.

Demands grow for rates change

MR DURANT (Reading, North) asked the Secretary of State for the Environment when he proposed to publish a White Paper on the reform of local government finance. MR JOHN SILKIN, Minister for Planning and Local Government (Leicester) said: I am sorry that I cannot say more about the reform of local government finance. The Secretary of State does not rule out the possibility of a more thoroughgoing long-term reform of local government finance.

Conservative attempt to protect small shopkeeper rejected

The Prices Bill was considered on report. MRS SALLY OPPENHEIM (Gloucester, C) moved a new clause (Exemption for small traders) to exclude from the application of orders made under relevant sections of the Act independently owned retail food shops with a turnover below £25,000 a year. She said the world did not owe small shopkeepers a living, but a great many small shops provided consumers with an extremely useful service which in many ways was unique. Many small shops were owner-operated and often the owners were pensioners who had sunk their life savings into the business so that they could conclude their remaining years with some measure of independence.

Telephone service on latest shop prices

MRS SALLY OPPENHEIM (Gloucester, C) moved an amendment to the Prices Bill to provide for a pilot telephone service. She said she was sure the clause would be welcomed by consumers and would not be a burden on shopkeepers. The Government were already providing a telephone service in London and the intention was to extend it to other parts of the country as soon as the initial problems had been ironed out.

MPs and Council to meet this month for budget control talks

We would be grateful if this whole matter could be discussed as soon as possible so that we will not lose months before we can start negotiations with the Council of Ministers. MR BROEKES (The Netherlands, Soc) on behalf of the Socialist Group, complained that the political groups of Parliament had not had an opportunity to discuss the Council's package. There should be more time. It had been thought this issue would be dealt with at the next session in June or at the end of June or at the July session.

European Parliament

MR CORNELIS BERKHOUWER, President of the Parliament, announced that it had been decided to appoint a parliamentary delegation which later this month would meet the Council of Ministers to discuss the package of proposals for increasing the budgetary powers of Parliament. He said that all political groups would be represented on the parliamentary delegation along with the chairman of the committee on budgetary control, Georges Spéaume (France, Soc). Tomorrow in the enlarged bureau, which consists of the president and vice-presidents of all the political groups, it would be proposed that the delegation should meet the Council of Ministers for an exchange of views on the budgetary package and draft decisions prepared by the Council about budgetary powers. The Council would not reach a final decision until after the talks had been held between them and Parliament.

Home Secretary wants civilized and rational penal system

House of Lords. Lady Hornsby-Smith, the former Conservative MP, Dame Patricia Hornsby-Smith, was introduced by the Earl of LONGFORD, calling attention to the prison situation and the need for reform, said there were far too many people in prison, even assuming the present high rate of crime. Two main categories of prisoners were those awaiting trial, who should be there at all, and those who had been there for a long time. He doubted whether women's prisons should continue at all. The experience of day training centres was still on a pilot scale. They were asking the Government today to remove not hundreds but thousands of prisoners in custody against their own interests and those of the nation.

BR want to build four new train prototypes

MR BERRY (Enfield, Southgate, C) asked the Secretary of State for the Environment when he expected the advanced passenger train to be introduced into service. MR MULLEY, Minister for Transport (Sheffield, Park, Lab) said: I am considering the BR's proposals for the production of four prototypes which could be in trial service from 1977.

Publication of Lennon report

MR CLEMMETT (Luton, Lab) asked the Secretary of State when he would consider publishing a report made to him by the manager of Police of the Home Office, Mr. J. Lennon, in view of the fact that the report had been published in the Court of Appeal in the Patrick Joseph O'Brien case. MR ROY JENKINS, Home Secretary, said: I shall publish the report as soon as I have had a chance to discuss it with other persons with whom Lennon had associated if decided.

Parliamentary No

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Principle for migrants should be equal pay

LADY ELLEN (United Kingdom, C) in a debate on a petition asking for a European statute of rights for migrant workers, said that any statute should take account of the various kinds of migrant workers. On behalf of the thousands of migrant workers and other Commonwealth citizens in the United Kingdom, she renewed their request that they should be treated as second-class citizens. The Conservative Government's policy of treating migrant workers as second-class citizens was a subject to the choice of the immigrant themselves. Some of them in our country (she went on) are demanding far higher standards of education for their children than we in some of our schools are offering. They will not accept their children should be on a religious education. They naturally insist on having their own language taught in order to keep their cultural traditions and their own history.

Geoffrey Green sets the scene for the 1974 World Cup

A theme of discipline and security

As the World Cup opens in Germany tonight, the 16 survivors of a... entry of over 90 will be...

So far over 13m tickets of the 2,200,000 available have been taken... that there would even have been...

this was the Munich Olympics of 1972 - can be used by dissident... that they would be blackmailed, extortion and highway violence.



The new golden trophy

Group one Champions of Europe go forward as favourites

WEST GERMANY (1954, W; 1958, W; 1974, W); EAST GERMANY (1974, W); CHILE (1930; 1950; 1962, SF; 1966)

On the eve of the start, West Germany and Chile seem to have been offered one of the easier initial rides of the tournament...

With him are five or six other of his own Bayern Munich side, the new champions of the European Cup...

Whether these West Germans have the quality to overcome the Chileans remains to be seen...

These three nations share a common problem: the right of many of their best players to other countries...

Beyond all this, Uruguay have been heavily criticised at home for the timing and poor opposition chosen in their rehearsals...

Group two World champions come to Europe with doubts

BRAZIL (1930; 1934; 1958, W; 1962, W; 1970, W); SCOTLAND (1954; 1958); YUGOSLAVIA (1930, SF; 1950; 1954; 1958; 1962, S-F); ZAIRE (-)

With Brazil, the holders and three-time winners of the globe, and Zaire, from the swampy heat of the Congo basin...

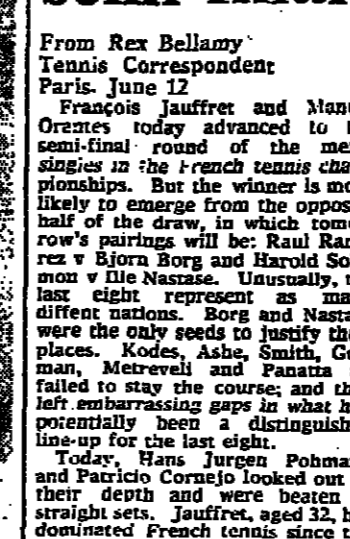
It is not clear how far the team will be able to build up to the tournament, but the team's build-up so far, the champions have been unimpressive...

Beyond this there has been confusion as to which style of play to adopt, and the relatively high level of the match four years ago in Mexico...

In four of the past five years the European Cup has gone to Ajax, who have won it five times...

For a nation small in numbers, Sweden's part time footballers, augmented by those trained professionally abroad...

Tennis Jauffret and Orantes advance to semi-final round in singles



From Rex Bellamy Tennis Correspondent

Francis Jauffret and Manuel Orantes today advanced to the semi-final round of the men's singles in the French tennis championships...

The last four women will be Raquel Gascare of Olga Morozova and Helga Masthoff...

Results in the Kent tennis championships, sponsored by Green Shield, at Beckenham yesterday were:

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Quarter-finalist was Miss M. NAVARRETTA (Croydon) beat Miss J. HELDMAN (USC) 6-2, 6-2.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Third round: Miss J. HELDMAN (USC) beat Miss M. NAVARRETTA (Croydon) 6-2, 6-2.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Semi-finalist was Miss M. NAVARRETTA (Croydon) beat Miss J. HELDMAN (USC) 6-2, 6-2.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Finalist was Miss M. NAVARRETTA (Croydon) beat Miss J. HELDMAN (USC) 6-2, 6-2.

Results in the Kent tennis championships, sponsored by Green Shield, at Beckenham yesterday were:

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Quarter-finalist was Miss M. NAVARRETTA (Croydon) beat Miss J. HELDMAN (USC) 6-2, 6-2.

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Third round: Miss J. HELDMAN (USC) beat Miss M. NAVARRETTA (Croydon) 6-2, 6-2.

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WOMEN'S SINGLES: Winner was Miss M. NAVARRETTA (Croydon) beat Miss J. HELDMAN (USC) 6-2, 6-2.

zill may fall rt of own past

Jeffrey Green II Correspondent, June 12

It is about the time a new decade is taken after the interval of a Lord's or the tenth World Cup will be in the Wald Stadium here...

England are not in the list as they were not at World Cup of all 44 years distant Uruguay...

Wald Stadium will be full with its 66,000 capacity on the vast crowd will throng the stadium...

These sides are true to their word, they will be in their own without Pele, Tosca...

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Group three Gathering of the exiles

URUGUAY (1930, W; 1950, W; 1954, SF; 1962; 1966; 1970, SF); NETHERLANDS (1934; 1938); SWEDEN (1934; 1938); BELGIUM (1930; 1934; 1938; 1970)

This looks the most evenly balanced group of all, with the Netherlands the most likely to win...

These three nations share a common problem: the right of many of their best players to other countries...

Beyond all this, Uruguay have been heavily criticised at home for the timing and poor opposition chosen in their rehearsals...

These sides are true to their word, they will be in their own without Pele, Tosca...

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Golf Par will be a blessing at Winged Foot

From Herb Weinberg New York, June 12

The par will be a blessing at Winged Foot Golf Club when Max Baer, New York, one of those green towns serving as one of New York City's bedrooms...

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Champion has nightmare homeward half

By Peter Ryde Golf Correspondent

An American Ann Sander, and the British women's golf championship at Royal Portcullis yesterday...

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Football No matches at Old Trafford without fences

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Table with 2 columns: Team, Colors. Lists various national teams and their associated colors.

Table with 2 columns: Date, Match. Lists dates and opponents for various teams.

Advertisement for Littlewoods Pools, Liverpool, featuring '8 Goes a Penny' and 'Million Share-Out'.

Wily back Lions against insvaal

By Neil Allen
Athletics Correspondent

Anders Lynch, Britain's fastest ever woman sprinter, was yesterday chosen for the international athletic meeting at East Germany at Crystal Palace on June 19 and 20 after telling the British team manager, Maria Hartman, "I'm 100 per cent recovered from injury and I can race." She will be considered for the 200 metres and the 400 metres as well as the 100 metres.

This welcome news means that on June 19 Miss Lynch will be able to achieve her aim of racing against East Germany's Renate Meyer, Olympic champion and world record holder, in the 200 and 400 metres. If Miss Lynch's eagerness is answered by triple selection she could face three races against the East German sprinter.

The women's match events are all being held on June 19 (beginning at 10.30) and will include a match the following day with the bulk of the men's competitors on the following day.

The most surprised of all those selected for Britain in this flat-out sprinting by the East German team was Renate Meyer, a 21-year-old student at Glasgow University, who will race the 200 metres. She was said to be surprised because "it's great news but, to be frank, I did not know Britain even had a match against East Germany." She was pleased when she heard that she was to race at Crystal Palace. "I thought I might get one of the British sprinters to challenge me for a small meeting rather than a big chance like this. Now I shall have to go out and put in another training session."

Frank Clement, another Scot who was Britain's leading 1,500 metres runner last season has been chosen for the 300 metres as he is still working on speed work at this early stage of the season. Brendan Foster and David Black, who won medals at longer distances in last January's Commonwealth Games, have both been asked to be considered for the East German 800 metres.

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Miss Lynch says she is fit three times over

By Neil Allen
Athletics Correspondent

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Broome and Philco take first place

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris
David Broome, who qualified the grey American thoroughbred, Philco, a son of Native Dancer, for the King George V Cup when he won the Hampshire area international trial at Alderhot, shortened the field by one when he scored again in the Harfordshire three-year-old steeplechase at Malvern yesterday. Philco, who is just the type of well bred, responsive horse on which the world champion excels, and only seven years old, jumped two classically correct clear rounds and won the three-horse final by 2.1 sec.

David Nicholson, the National Hunt Jockey who trained and spent a long day judging the biggest classes of young hunters, they have never been seen at this show, with 20 entries, a commensurate prize of £1,000. A somewhat depressing collection of 23 yearling fillies was mercifully no indication of the quality of the yearling stables of last year's colts, led by Mr. Richards's brown son of Hoarwithy, novice champion at the Newmarket stallion show in 1973, and probably his best. The two-year-olds were better still and produced both champion and reserve.

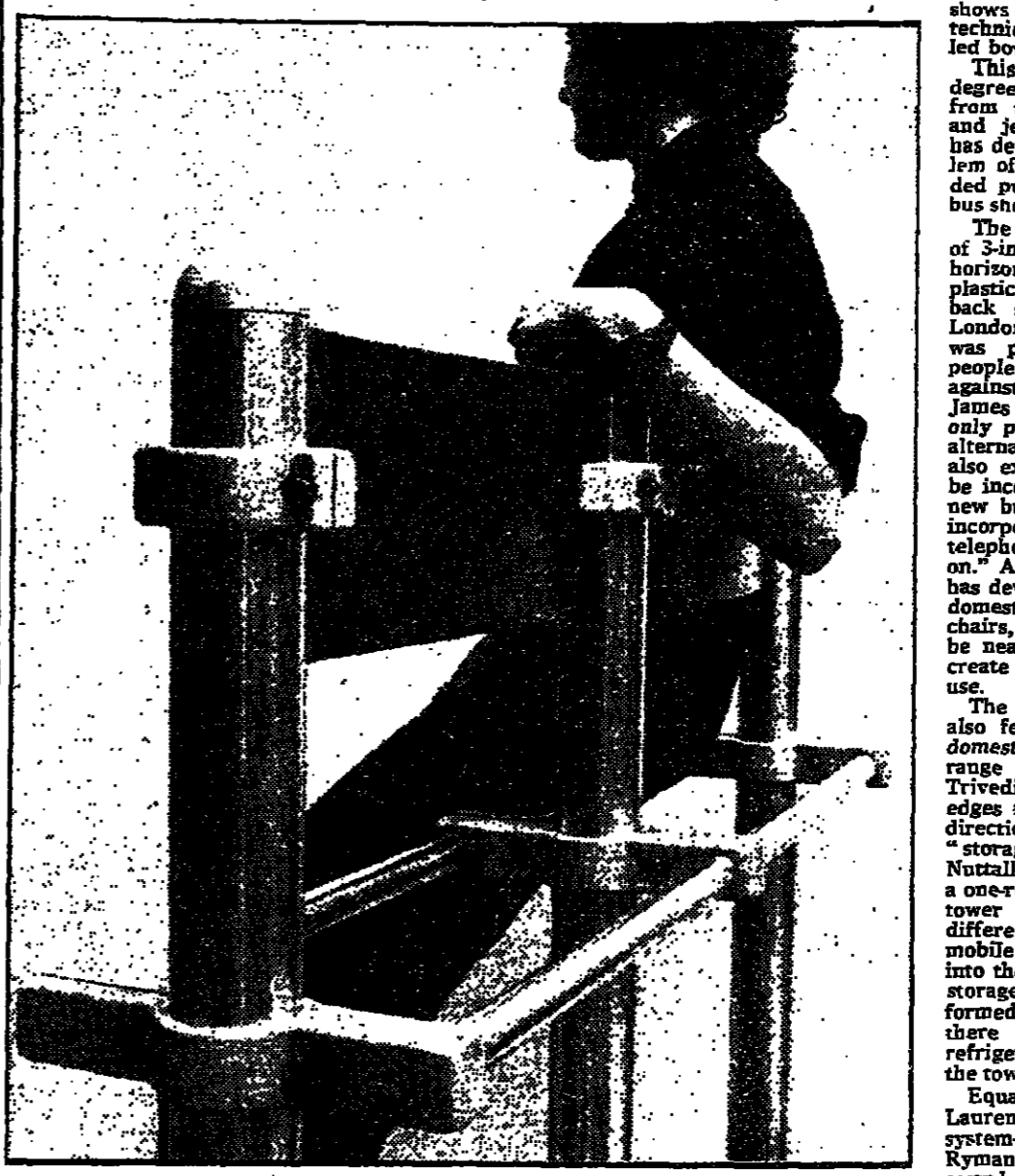
A mixed class of three-year-olds, undervalued by many, included the overall champion at Leicester who last week defeated all the ridden hunters, Mr. Ivens's Aldmark, by Count Alban, trained by Mr. and Mrs. White's Glen Spirit, supreme at the Bath and West. But the ultimate winner was a liver chestnut filly by Quality Fair out of Crown Sapphire, a winner at the Hunter Show last year, owned and bred by Joanna Varden, who operates the national foaling bank in Shropshire.

The title was won by Mr. Ivens's two-year-old Sammy, Dasher, another son of Quality Fair, who has already won several other titles in this season. In reserve was Mrs. Toller's two-year-old Billy, Irish Cuckoo, a daughter of her former working hunter, Lovelock, and representing the fourth generation of the same line of breeding. She is by Rathlin (by Djebel out of a preselection mare) the sire of many good three-day event horses including Samuel Whiskers. The filly is a credit to Mrs. Toller's stud groom since she was born in 1972, and bears his 78 years lightly.

Jewelry highlights imaginative expression in mixed media design

I have reported on the annual Royal College of Art degree show for more years than I care to remember, and although the overall standard of work has been consistently high, invariably one department, like a good wine, qualifies for a vintage label. This year it is the turn of the Silversmithing and Jewellery school, where design ranges from exquisitely wrought silver tableware to an Ophelia-like tremulant tiara of enamelled gold flowers and leaves.

In the past the school has specialized in training students to handle the traditional metals of the jewelry trade, but this year's eight degree students show a remarkable ability to express themselves in many different media from ebony to stainless steel. This exciting departure into new materials is also reflected in a vivid choice of imagery, with serpents, butterflies, flowers and mythological heroes, transformed into exotic rings, pendants, earrings and bracelets. I was particularly impressed with the work of Barbara Jardine, whose degree exhibit reads like a *fin-de-siècle* collection of objets trouvés.



Top: John Grant's ten minute seating designed for airport building and other public areas. Left: John Martin Dalasman's folding timber chair designed for restricted living space. Right: Barbara Jardine's carved ebony bracelet mounted with an encrusted figurehead and garnet sphere. Photographs by Frank Thurston

Report June 12 1974

Occupiers for 20 years without rent licenses

and Another v Burns
Lord Justice Stamp, Lord Roskill and Lord Justice Goff. The court found in favour of the occupiers, who had lived in the property since 1954. The court held that the occupiers had acquired a right to occupy the property under the Rent Act 1968. The court also found that the landlord had failed to show that the occupiers were not tenants under the Rent Act 1968. The court therefore granted an order for possession of the property to the occupiers.

Bawbee and Tarka in lead

By a Special Correspondent
With two boats sailed yesterday to make up for Sunday's abandoned race, Bawbee (Kenneth Gurnley) and Tarka (Nicholas Gurnley) led the four boats of the Dragon Dragon Yacht Club, which had trouble with their spritaker on the second reach and fell back to third.

Encouraged by his morning win, Lloyd led the fleet away in the second race and was followed down the reach by Gwylfa (Patrick Gifford) and Tarka.

The first race proved to be a fine tussle with Gwylfa leading, but Tarka took the lead in the second race. The race was a close one, with Gwylfa and Tarka both showing strong pace. The race was a close one, with Gwylfa and Tarka both showing strong pace. The race was a close one, with Gwylfa and Tarka both showing strong pace.

Court of Appeal

Lynes v Smith (1889) 1 QB489

It was held in the case of Lynes v Smith (1889) 1 QB489 that a tenant who occupies a property for a long period of time, without a license, may acquire a right to occupy the property under the Rent Act 1968. The court held that the tenant had acquired a right to occupy the property under the Rent Act 1968. The court also found that the landlord had failed to show that the tenant was not a tenant under the Rent Act 1968. The court therefore granted an order for possession of the property to the tenant.

Katie Stewart Straight to the heart

They are picking globe artichokes for us in Brittany now. The season began in May and continues through the summer months to end in October. Fields of bold green globe artichokes flourish in the rich alluvial soil all along the coastal area of north Finistère. Brittany grows only the globe artichoke, distinctive for its rich green colour and neat round shape. Brittany Prince is the name and it certainly lives up to it. This particular globe artichoke has a superior flavour and freshness, with a very good sized heart.

Picked early in the morning when they are at their freshest, globe artichokes are sent to market with about six inches of stalk. This stem is important as it holds water to keep the artichoke in good condition during transportation. Artichokes must not be allowed to dry out. The stalk must of course be removed before cooking and the first lesson I learned during my visit to Brittany last week was that the stem should be snapped off and not cut with a knife. Firmly the artichoke at the edge of your table, grasp the stem and snap it off close to the head. You will notice that small rough fibres are drawn out of the base of the artichoke and removed with the stalk leaving the succulent artichoke 'fond' more tender. Rub the fleshy base over with the fingers pull them gently out and discard. The French discard any small leaves around the base and it's ready to cook.

Globe artichokes are not only delicious eating, they look pretty too. Boiling is the method used for cooking them and the water should be very salty, about 1 level tablespoon of salt for every pint of water. Bring the water to the boil in a large pan and add the artichokes. They will be ready to eat in 20 to 30 minutes. Simmer them gently, leaving the pan uncovered, for about 40 minutes. When they are ready, a leaf should pull off quite readily. Make a point of draining artichokes upside down—a slotted spoon is useful for this, so that all the boiling water caught in the leaves drains back into the pan.

Globe artichokes can be served hot or cold. Personally I think they look most beautiful on the dinner table whole, just like this. But if your pan is on the small side, you can use a sharp—preferably saw-edged knife to cut right through the leaves across the centre of the head. As it is the base of each leaf that you nibble at, all you are cutting off is a part that will come away quite easily. The French discard the heart, which is a mayonnaise with chopped parsley, chervil, tarragon and chives added. Breton sauce is a mayonnaise with diced tomato, tarragon sauce up-side-down—a slotted spoon is useful for this, so that all the boiling water caught in the leaves drains back into the pan.

However artichokes are served they are delicious eating. Although we tend to look upon them primarily as a first course in a menu, a summer lunch or supper snack could be a couple of globe artichokes with vinaigrette sauce and French bread and butter. An extravagant treat perhaps, but in the countryside where they grow, that's the way they are eaten.

Status of lay justices in Crown Courts

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Good news for those who can't drink coffee... you can!

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BOOKS

The Evangelical improver

William Wilberforce
By Robin Furneaux

"Say what you like", observed Charles II of Calvinism, "it is no religion for a gentleman". Well, we know what he meant. The social meaning has left the prejudice, in an age when TV celebrities and Irish peers are once again on the side of the angels, but there remains the feeling, now as always, that the wicked are more fun than the righteous.

William Wilberforce was, I suppose, the archetype of the Evangelical improver, later to become so powerful and so baleful a figure of the Victorian scene, and like many another lesser reprobate I have always viewed his saintly reputation warily. I do not like his sappy face. I cannot easily warm to a man who believed the theatre to be innately wicked, and whose honey-moon consisted of a tour of Evangelical primary schools in Somerset. I remember that nauseating moment in the House of Commons when Wilberforce, unnecessarily intervening in an affair of State probity, effectively destroyed

his lifelong friend and benefactor, William Pitt. It is the triumph of Mr Furneaux's magnificent new biography that it will give even the most irresponsible among us, even the least hopeful of Salvation, second thoughts about Wilberforce. There is no need to preach to us, of course, about the man's achievements. The abolition of the slave trade seems to me the grandest achievement of British policy, and the noblest memorial any politician could seek. In countless other spheres of goodness, public and private, from the foundation of the RSPCA to the protection of boy chimney sweeps, Wilberforce played a supremely honourable role. But it is not the saintliness of Wilberforce that puts off the sceptical, it is his piety. The Evangelicals themselves gave this word its pejorative undercurrent, and the world is divided still between those who honour it in its old meaning, and those who (like me) sneer at it in its new.

The point about Wilberforce, though, is that he preceded piety. Evangelical Christianity had not solidified in his day. It was still fluid, exciting, vivacious, even humorous. Though his spiritual conversion was so to colour the 19th century, Wilberforce remained all his life a man of the 18th: a volatile, companionable, entertaining man, Jeffersonian in the range of his interests, whose friends were worldly as often as they were holy, whose love of litera-

Operation Seafarer

The Seabirds of Britain and Ireland
By Stanley Cramp, W. R. P. Bourne and David Saunders

Two points are entirely pertinent to this book: Britain and Ireland provide the most important breeding places for seabirds in the north-east Atlantic; and our seabirds are excellent indicators of ecological danger (oil spills, toxic waste, marine abuse). These two facts gave rise to Operation Seafarer of 1969-70. How could we know if we were doing well for our birds, and how could we know if some species was suddenly slumping in numbers, if we did not have an efficient count of our breeding pairs to act as a base line? Seafarer was that count, and this book sums it up for us.

There are three chapters on the biology, hazards and changing fortunes of seabirds, but the bulk of the text deals individually with the 24 species now nesting every year in Britain and Ireland. There are also supporting maps, one for each species showing their main breeding areas, and a wealth more material in a fat appendix. In many ways the whole work is a further tablet to the late James Fisher, so active in his own gannet, fulmar surveys, who chaired the committee that led to this most monumental count.

The book is therefore about the million pairs of seabirds found breeding here, and whose presence has such particular charm and fascination to the coastline. The number is not great, in that British blackbirds, house sparrows and chaffinches are each thought to total about 10 million individuals, but the birds without that incredible plume of the gannet, the aerobatics of the tern, or even the ordinary cry of the ordinary gull? I suspect people may buy this book for the same reason: they are tempted to acquire a similar work about a selection of land-based birds. They might not be able to tell a shag from a cormorant, but they would want to. Our seabirds have a strong hold upon our insular attitudes.

These three chapters to this book, alas, it bears for me at least, the heavy-footed imprint of committee prose. The opening chapters, in particular, plod wearily through their exciting facts. All those Latin names and awkward phrases that help to conceal, they are worthy but unwelcome in introductory material. The word "charadriiformes" suddenly appears on the third page of the book itself, leaving the uninitiated among us to wonder which species comes within its compass. The Seabirds is said to be for the general reader; well, then, it should have been more general. As for the eight pages of photographs they are a dull lot for such a visual subject.

However, I am delighted that Operation Seafarer took place, and am happy that so much of its gathered information is now generally available. Incidentally I do not remember encountering the definition of a seabird anywhere in this book—the group does not include many birds we see beside the sea, such as oyster-catchers. But most certainly there is the heartening news that few of our seabirds are declining. Except for the little tern and the three auks, the gull, razorbill and puffin. With luck, by drawing attention to their plight, this book may help to better their ill-fortune. And I cannot imagine that any of these three authors being more rapaciously received by them.

Anthony Smith



Quick guide

Letters in Criticism by F. R. Leavis; edited with an Introduction by John Baker. (Chazco & Windus, £2.50). Dr Leavis has earned himself a place in the history of literary controversy, not because he favours that sub-kind, but because his care about the crucial importance of the state of letters to regard to the health of the community has inspired him to write more consistently than the editors of his collection. This present book collects some splendid stuff. Leavis's consistency in defending the idea of a university, his attacks on literary politicians, and his frank subscription to genius in the few modern places where it is to be found, grace it to be found.

Sun Too Fast, by Sheila Fowles. (HBJ, £3.25). Lady Powercourt has chosen the framework of a journal of a year in her life to range backwards: there are some unforgettably spine-chilling scenes from her childhood with a splendid mother, she writes vividly about friendships with Sir Chester Beatty, Dr Margaret Murray and others, including, with breathless awe, Harold and Vera Nicholson, and the arrival of the biological workers in England and Greece. Devotees of Irish eccentricity and country life will relish her account of life at Powercourt, the family home in Wicklow, and at Ballinacorney, a clear portrait of a brave and intelligent woman.

Marie Curie, by Robert Reid. (Collins, £4.50). Here are all the familiar elements of Marie Curie's story—humdrum background, fierce ambition, marriage to Pierre Curie, and the fertilising effect of his brilliance on her exceptional thoroughness; recognition, adulation, tragic loss, and gradual transmutation of the tough "saint" into mother, figure of French workers' solidarity, and a kind of extrajurisdiction for their use, and for research and medical purposes, the world over. Where Reid scores is in his access to perspective; himself a chemist, he searches for and finds the most biographers to assess the blend of innocence and obstinacy that effectively blinded the Curies and their co-workers to the terrible immediate and distant side-effects of their discovery.

G. K. Chesterton: an Appreciation, edited by John Sullivan. (Penguin, £1.95). Chesterton's work is so diverse that a collection of critical articles might indeed best do justice to it. But while one or two of these pieces are serious though unexciting (King's Arms on the novel, Scoble's achievement), others are either lightweight (W. H. Auden on the poetry), valedictory (Dorothy E. Collins's Recollections), stodgey (Patrick Cullen on Chesterton and the Future of Democracy), or just plain nonsense (The Penguin's Edward Chesterton in Japan: "not the least of his limitations was his failure to appreciate the character of the Japanese").

Under the general editorship of Christopher Riches, the Penguin English Poets has already proved itself an excellent series of paperback—which is precisely why it is so good. It is published in paperback by Allen Lane. A. J. Smit's John Donne: The Complete Poems (£4). J. D. Flecker's Samuel Johnson: Complete English Poems (£2.50), and E. S. D. Brown's Andrew Marvell: The Complete Poems (£2.50) are the first three volumes to be so transformed. Marlowe, Wordsworth, and Browning's "Ring and the Book" are promised space. The series recommends itself to the serious reader by reason of its completeness. The Donne is outstanding, containing as it does the recently discovered manuscript of the verse letter to Lady Carey and Mistress Essex Rich.

Queen Mary and Others
By Osbert Sitwell
(Michael Joseph, £3). Osbert Sitwell was perhaps the finest narrator of his generation, an urbane, witty, imaginative observer of his own life and other people's times. Readers who delighted in his leisurely tales will greet the appearance of what is apparently a new volume of essays with delight. But its freshness is relative: as far as I can judge, only four or possibly five of the dozen pieces in the book are truly uncollected. Others have appeared not only in various periodicals (some in the early 1940s) but in previous books, occasionally in more than one. There is no thorough indication of sources, and the book has apparently been put together without the help of many books of essays and travelogues. Yet there are pieces here which one would not have missed. When Sir Osbert wrote about Queen Mary for The Observer in 1947 and again for The Spectator in 1953, he could not do so as fully as he does in the title-piece of this book in a poised, unerring yet still un-daringly narrating yet still un-daringly anecdotal style with some beautiful anecdotes (anyone who does not already know the story of Her Majesty, Mr and Mrs Tims, and the onions, should fly to page 65-71). One expects anecdotes and eccentricities in any reminiscence of Sir Osbert's; true or not, they are always hilarious. Here, for instance, are the lady who "rang the frodo-doo bell" and "demanded that I should

Derek Parker

A Double Life, by Sir William Hayter. (Hamish Hamilton, £3). Sir William Hayter spent 22 years in the diplomatic service before settling early to become Warden of Balliol College. He offers sensible thoughts of his two professions and tells some good stories. He is frank but never indiscreet. We learn more about his likes—travel, oysters, Winchester, important people, Bertha—than about his dislikes, except for Suez, which—nearly made him resign, and a few bad diets like Shephard and Vyshinski. His three years as ambassador in Moscow were the most rewarding part of his career, and to those who have already devoted six earlier books to the subject, this book is a welcome addition. He recommends those who have read the earlier books to skip. Without prejudice, Sir William might have been a more expensive.

Patrick White

Short stories

The Cockatoos

By Patrick White

Individually and together these six magnificent stories and short novels in The Cockatoos shine with Patrick White's feeling for the immenseness and comedy of every life. They are set in Australia, Egypt, Athens and Sicily and his technical virtuosity, tautly controlled, surpasses even the best of his novels which won him the Nobel Prize for literature last year. There is no other writing in English that meets so directly the needs of our time, of roughly the past three decades.

Captive people and their real and dream flights towards less captivity recur throughout this book. A dread of subjugation and possession, besides his characters in prolonged solitude or, like the wild, vehement but tender-eyed cockatoos in the last story, they are easily frightened off, destroyed while inspiring changes or discoveries in other lives. Not many writers have combined such a sexuality though some certainly try.

The collection begins with A Woman's Hand, a short novel. Harold Fazzakerley, a retired business manager, walks along the Sydney coast, beside his wife Evelyn, who can be said always to have been in retirement. You should walk more slowly, she says. They are spirits made by their time, says Mr White; and Harold Fazzakerley goes far to say that he has met his hearting, prejudiced, working class and very moving wife what she is. He bankers for the supposed friend and quiet of a former friend and she tries to take a hand in the future. It is told with loving wit so that our regard for all of them grows with each line; the outside human-watcher's view of them in the beginning gradually starts to blaze hopefully but is never bombarded as they express and enlarge their own small expectations.

Where people's thoughts, fantasies, conscious and unconscious spirit overwhelm their apparently uneventful lives, Patrick White transfers them to a woman's mind, drives them to a mastery piece, Sicilian Vespers, nervous tourists are described with delicacy that blooms into nightmare; for two pages a woman's mind drives her longings and she indulges her blowsy emotions until all stops (including full stops) are pulled out.

Myrna Blumberg

Crime

Epitaph for a Lobbyist

By R. B. Dominic

Ours is the era of knowingsness. And, as with many other aspects of contemporary civilisation, it is America that leads the way. The symptom is reflected, like most other facets of today's life, in crime literature. The supreme example perhaps is the knowing novel of the two American ladies who under the pseudonym of Emma Lathen. (Typical knowingsness to proclaim their names as Mary J. Lathen and Martha Hennissart, a fact I owe to Julian Symons' history Bloody Murder, now a paperback from Penguin at 40p with Lathen's own Come to Dust at 35p.) But hard on the Lathen heels must come the equally pseudonymous authors who as R. B. Dominic writes about the inner life of the United States Congress.

It is the wealth and detail of information, about how lobbyists actually work, about voting procedures, about sycophancy towards the Speaker, that is the enjoyable affair. Like a bridge eventful with decent cards guaranteed. Forgotten Road, by Simon Hurveter. (Hutchinson, £2.40). In the desert, old Dorian Silk takes short walk in the Rhind Kush. Adventures below: instruction descends. How to be effortlessly upper-crust and have sex. Done to Death, by Sara Woods. (Macmillan, £1.95). Poison-pennery in Yorkshire. The classic whodunit of yore told with graceful lucidity. Niceness shines through everywhere; credulity is just a bit strayed.

H. R. F. Keating

The 250 Year Voyage
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Our ship has since sailed all over the world. We are now an international publishing group with companies and branches in thirty two countries.
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To celebrate we publish Essays in the History of Publishing edited by Professor Asa Briggs. Many Illustrations 480 pages £5.00 net. Publication 15th July.
An exhibition 18-29th June The First 250 Years of the House of Longman at the National Book League, 7 Albemarle Street, London W.1.

Mind the goulash
Survival in the City
By Anthony Greenbank
(Wolfe, £5)
The modern city, according to Anthony Greenbank, is an utterly hostile place where you are in constant danger of being mugged, raped, stabbed, conned or given a nasty dose of venereal disease. Accordingly he has compiled this hefty volume which tells how to avoid the ghoulish fate which lies in store for the urban unwary.
Everyone is divided simply into SURVIVORS and LOSERS and, for some obscure typographical reason, capital letters. The SURVIVOR is a very peculiar and unattractive character indeed. Confronted, for example, by the old lady lying on the sidewalk, he passes by on the other side of the street, remembering the Good Samaritan: if he should succumb to some deep-rooted charity he will "use one handed" waller clutch "to pick her up in case she is one of a gang."
When he stays in a hotel he will always take a tape record of typing, bed squeaks, or telephone calls. This is left on when he is out and turned on when he is in and his door is attacked by prostitutes. When he (or she) is accosted by muggers or rapists he will quite likely frustrate his assailants by pretending lunacy and will "turn a handspring" . . . throw wrist watch on to ground and trample on it . . . or false teeth (and jump on them). Feel off these exclamations and eat them."
He will be quickly distinguished in department stores where he will deter the hordes of pickpockets by muttering a constant refrain of "mind the goulash". In the glove compartment of his car he invariably carries a bottle of water, coffee powder, colouring and a dash of foam carpet shampoo, as well, possibly as a bone from the butcher. When attacked he will immediately douse himself with the artificial blood and make the bone stick out through his shirt-sleeves. Then, of course, the lynch mob will disperse. He is, I need hardly say, chronically suspicious and when, in the park, he sees a group of girls running towards him over an ornamental footbridge his first reaction is "Are they muggers zoning in?"
The LOSER by contrast is a perfectly nice, ordinary, well intentioned citizen with none of these eccentricities. He is also, according to Mr Greenbank, dead.
The book was written originally for Americans, who have more violent cities than us, and among the idiocy and the confusing cross-references there are some quite useful bits of common sense. "To break a stranglehold from behind" he says with deadpan optimism, "stamp on attacker's foot."
Ah.
Tim Heald

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Appointments Vacant also on page 17

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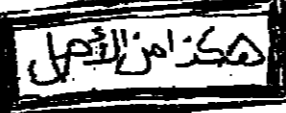
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EACEMAKER IN TROUBLE

Sign statements contemplated possibility that Mr. Kissinger will be impeached they themselves with the at Dr Kissinger will guarantee the conf American foreign less, they have done w. After Dr Kissinger in America on they may begin to have d. the doubts will be Dr Kissinger is one remarkable secrete the United States ad. In a very short as forged a simul approachment with the Soviet Union, ex United States from restored relations with helped to negotiate a the Middle East that to lasting peace. He has, on occasion, sessed the tide of liability to do this with is a rare gift among It is true that some of ments look more sub n they may eventually limited progress is made with the Soviet Middle East is still and the European re is still bruised. But means are still. His significance. His skill combined with some have brought new to American policy y furthered the in he United States and rld as a whole. His would be far more the world than that n. this lifts him above absolves him of the to account for his He has probably s own case by reacting

so. He is and by threatening resignation before the facts are established. He cannot expect that he will be immune from the sort of questioning to which other members of the Administration have been subjected. He owes it to the importance of his office and the hopes which are pinned on him to go through the same mill, however much he may hate having it done to him. There are a number of questions which require answers. How deeply was he involved in the decision to tap the telephones of officials and journalists in 1969? Was the decision justified, and were the proper procedures observed? Did he tell the truth when he was testifying under oath to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee during his confirmation hearings? If not, does this make it impossible for him to continue as secretary of state? These questions are now to be reviewed by the Foreign Relations Committee. Until the results emerge there are a few points that can be made. He was clearly justified in trying to stop leaks from the White House. Tapping the telephones of suspects would not necessarily be an illegitimate way of trying to do this. But if his conscience were clear there would be no need to withhold the truth from a closed session of a Senate committee. The Senate has a right to expect the truth in such circumstances, and he himself was under oath to provide it. If untruth is proven it will create a serious problem for Dr Kissinger. It is one thing to have a reputation for devious diplomacy with foreign governments who expect it, and quite another to commit perjury before one's peers. But even if perjury were

proven it would not necessarily require his resignation. If he were prepared to swallow his prickly pride and leave the decision to the Senate it seems highly unlikely that anyone would want to push things to that point. His achievements are known and respected and nobody would underestimate the effect that his departure would have on American foreign policy. It may well turn out that he was more guilty of half-truths than untruths and in that case there would be plenty of room for compromise. While the Senate is trying to establish the facts the American press should keep a sense of proportion. Dr Kissinger is working very hard to further American interests, and he has every right to expect some recognition of this. Yet when he gave a press conference on his return from the Middle East it became an occasion for wire-tapping. The simple fact is that the tapping of the telephones of officials and journalists is more important than the tapping of journalists' telephones. If this is lost sight of the work of Dr Kissinger will be even more hampered than it already is. The purging spirit of the Watergate inquiries is beneficial in so far as it establishes that members of the government are not above the law and that the pursuit of legitimate ends does not justify illegitimate means. But if the search for truth is tainted by bloodiness it will have the opposite effect: this danger is not very obvious. What Dr Kissinger is accused of having done is not comparable to the vast web of malpractice that has been exposed by the Watergate inquiries. It would be wrong and deeply damaging to the United States and her allies if a justifiable inquiry became a manhunt.

RIGHT TO BORROW AGAINST GOLD

ion by the major of the International and to support the using gold as col- loans between central timely contribution. has risen in the most in relation to Italy's blem. It would have ally impossible for s its foreign currency by much further borrowing. The truth of recycling the se in nations accruing, ducing countries, to offering a consequent payments deficit has to swamping the titutions operating in. In term of normal idence, many of these ow reached the point an no longer increase money they have lent s in one country. free market price of anding well above nce countries with ce of payments prob- nsequence of the oil have been in the position of finding al gold reserves, immobilized at a keeping valuation of unce. By allowing s to use gold at a

market related price as collateral for loans between each other, monetary gold reserves could be effectively mobilized. It does not, however, necessarily follow from this that monetary gold is about to be reinstated as a central part of the mechanism of the international monetary system. This is, both in logic and in practice, a different question on which there is no sign of early agreement between even the leading members of the IMF. The evidence indeed is that the attempt to make the IMF's own special drawing right, the centre of the monetary system. As we reported yesterday, the IMF's reform Committee of Twenty is about publicly to agree that this unit, which all others should relate, shall be valued in terms of an average bundle of the world's major trading currencies. There is a paradox that those who wish to phase gold out of the monetary system and those who wish to restore it to its former position jointly advocate many of the same first steps towards their respectively quite different ends. Thus, for example, the moves in the United States to restore the right of private citizens to own gold can be seen

as having two diametrically opposed aims. It can either be seen as an admission that gold, not paper currency, is the only true store of value in an inflationary age. Alternatively it can be seen as a declaration that gold is merely another commodity, having no part in the monetary system, in which private individuals should therefore be free to speculate. The central decision remains, as has always been the case, whether or not central banks will be allowed (or allow themselves) to buy gold from the free market. They have always been free to sell on the free market, but have understandably declined to do so, while the free market price has been higher than the official price and rising. The Americans have never dropped their opposition to the notion that central banks should be allowed to buy gold, thus potentially increasing the amount within the monetary system. There is now widespread support for the idea that the IMF should sell gold on the free market, having bought it from central banks. It remains to be seen whether there is any growing support for the idea that IMF gold should also be allowed to buy gold, either directly or on behalf of its members.

IR PAY, BETTER HOUSING, BETTER HOURS

of policing in London ously threatened by of manpower. That clear by Sir Robert Commissioner of the Police, in presenting report yesterday. The ot new and the police s in this plight among services in London. living, especially of time and expense of work and the general f life are so much metropolitan area tural for those who their skills anywhere ry to prefer to do so mfortable and less ndings. That applies local government en, general practi- other groups as well. A vicious circle has a number of these sby the shortage of sby conditions which sional satisfaction n makes the shortage worse, especially true of nd general practi- in one sense of the

police as well. The worst policing problems in the country are found in London. That is where the professional challenge is greatest, and there is no doubt of the satisfaction this can bring. But the shortage of staff makes working conditions appalling in the sense that a man can never be sure of having his time off with his family. We should have a notice to deal with a demonstration or some other threat to public order. This is naturally destructive of family life and the pressure of wives has a great deal to do with the high rate of wastage from the Metropolitan Police. It is this rate of wastage that is the principal anxiety. It means that the position is in practice even worse than the manpower figures indicate because not only is there a net loss but each year experienced officers in mid-career are being replaced by raw recruits. The effect of this on the quality of police work is undeniable. There is no accurate measurement of the ideal level of police manpower. The authorized establishment, which has not been

reached in London for years, is no more than a notional calculation. But it is clear that the present force is far below what is needed. With more men, and women, many areas of police work could be better staffed and there could be a more evident police presence on the streets, which can be no small disincentive to crime. What then can be done? The most obvious remedies are more assistance with housing, the cost of which is a particular anxiety for the young policeman scraping up the money for a mortgage, and an adequate London allowance. These are both necessary. They could help to stem the flow of officers to provincial forces. But more will be required to prevent men leaving the police altogether. The only remedy for that is to improve the position of the police in the national salary scale. There is a powerful case for doing so for the sake of public order and safety. But it will not be easy. It is safeguard the interests of the public service professions until there are some arrangements to prevent leaping wage increases.

is Harper port (June 3) of the occasion of probation teams at York last which a number of d for more bail hostels, a statement that "in of [bail] hostels" fied as of no fixed to to prison instead of i bail", while awaiting s indeed the position, sly unsatisfactory one. usiasm for bail hostels- ously confusing the real- it of course that no- may properly be con- ments, unless his con- ally justifies such a tently published report, sice working party on d that principles and i bail should be granted

as of right in all cases, unless there is sufficient grounds for refusing it. Nevertheless, they went on to welcome the establishment of bail hostels to which defendants of no fixed abode, who are otherwise suitable for bail, may be sent "as a condition of bail". The qualification "otherwise" merely begs the question at issue. Individuals who are suitable for bail (because there is no significant risk of their absconding, interfering with witnesses or committing further offences while on bail) should be granted that liberty unconditionally—those of no fixed abode, no less than those of a more conventional kind. If people wish to "live rough" that is their choice, and it is not a choice which the courts are entitled to frustrate, making its enforced abandonment a condition of bail (with imprisonment the only alternative) as though the mere fact of being without a fixed abode re-

butted the presumption of innocence—a presumption which the working party themselves maintained should govern bail decisions, no less than decisions on guilt. But for section 18(5) (e) of the Criminal Justice Act 1967, which provides that a court may refuse bail "where it appears that a defendant has no fixed abode" there would be no case for bail hostels which could not equally well be met by ordinary hostels for the homeless, who are homeless not from choice, but from force of circumstances. Section 18(5) (a) ought to be repealed, and bail hostels are merely helping to sustain it in being. It is time middle-headed liberals got their priorities straight. Yours faithfully, TOM HARPER, 3 Milton Court, Barbican, EC2. June 5.

Edinburgh Opera House plans

From the Lord Provost of Edinburgh Sir, Mr Bernard Levin, author of the article "The mean burghers of Scotland's capital" in today's Times (June 11), is a journalist whom we have had the pleasure of welcoming at our Edinburgh Festival on several occasions. As he confesses to a love of Edinburgh (though he has a funny way of showing it) I am sorry to learn from his article that he is so ignorant about it. I set a few facts against his assertions. Edinburgh has made a definite decision to build an Opera House. In the autumn of 1971 the Corporation received an offer of grant from the Scottish Government. The Government approved the brief for grant and in June 1973 the Corporation finally approved the brief and instructed the project to start. The first stage of design will be completed next month. Expenditure on fees etc already exceeds half a million pounds. The project, at January 1974 prices, is expected to cost £18 million in total, and design fees are estimated to be £1.5 million. The complex is being built to house Edinburgh's theatrical activity of all kinds—not only grand opera—throughout the century. The Scottish National Opera House in Glasgow, the Edinburgh Opera House in this city that it will, by creating a better market in Scotland, assist the Edinburgh Opera House—a multi-purpose theatre—to build up a "meanness" is concerned. I should like to remind Mr Levin that Edinburgh Corporation spend more on the arts and cultural activities than any other comparable city in the United Kingdom to own and operate all the large theatres within its boundaries, and annually Edinburgh Corporation give substantial subsidies to Scottish opera, the Scottish National Opera, and a whole host of local drama, musical and cultural groups. Up to and including 1973 Edinburgh Corporation's direct contributions to the International Festival have totalled £1,327,000. This figure does not include the many indirect contributions to the Festival by utilization of Corporation departmental services. Mr Levin says that "Edinburgh is keeping the standard of hotels down" though he doesn't explain what he means by this. "Mean burghers" manage to do so. In fact, since 1970 four large new hotels have been opened and extensions made to three other first-class hotels making almost 1,000 new beds available to tourists. The University of Edinburgh in addition to building new accommodation for lectures, expanded its university halls of residence so that in the summer months when the students are on holiday up to 1,000 visitors can be accommodated in any one night. My references to Edinburgh prudishness are all too typical of the kind of thing we have come to expect from ill-informed journalists hard up for a headline. We had looked for something better from Mr Levin. He may not know—but he should—that Edinburgh Corporation for several years has subsidized that most adventurous and outspoken of experimental theatres, the Traverse, and that indeed both for the Corporation and the Traverse would not now be in existence. Perhaps when Mr Levin attends this year's Festival—and I understand he will take the opportunity of becoming a member of the British League of the Arts in Edinburgh. JACK KANE, Lord Provost, City Chambers, Edinburgh. June 11.

Legal immunity for strikers

From Mr J. B. Bransbury Sir, Mr Campbell Adamson is hardly right and Professor Wedderburn is certainly wrong in their references to the consequences of the Bill now before Parliament of which it is widely believed Professor Wedderburn was the inspiration and perhaps even at times the draftsman. The Torquay Hotel case turned on a narrow point of fact; were the acts of Mr Cousins and others against the Imperial Hotel intended to help them in their dispute with the Torquay Hotel? Lord Denning said: "The only question is whether the acts done by the defendant union officials against the Imperial Hotel were done in furtherance of the trade dispute with the Torbay Hotel. I do not think they were. The only question is whether the anger which they felt towards Mr Chapman for having, as they said, intervened in their dispute. They were not furthering a trade dispute, but their own fury and the Trade Disputes Act 1906 does not protect them." Under the new Bill unions and their pickets would undoubtedly be free to bring normal life to a halt if the object was to help them resolve their own dispute (whether the victims of the picket were parties to the dispute or not); and the miners' picketing in the spring of 1972 (before the relevant sections of the 1971 Act had come into operation) would illustrate the danger. Yours faithfully, J. B. BRANSBURY, Chairman of the Industrial Relations Sub-Committee of the Bar Association for Commerce, Finance and Industry, Barkers' Grove, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, June 12.

Break-up of farms

From Lord Porchester Sir, The declared intention of some to prevent any form of inherited wealth prompts me to examine the effects of the application of the policy to farm and forest land and the countryside. What could be more prudent than those who farm land and grow timber and try to enhance their property making every effort to hand over the fruits of their work to those who may succeed them? The building up of any industrial enterprise involves considerable capital, some risk, and much hard work. Land in particular requires very personal attention and produces a low return on capital invested. The stewardship of an estate, exactly like farming, means the caring for and love of your property, and the task of maintaining it is a more difficult one than the quality and beauty of this landscape. Many years of devotion to this cause brings with it the very natural desire to leave it in the hands of those you love and those you have tried to bring up to care for their home. If there is no possibility of owner occupier-farmers and estate owners seeing their own and their predecessors' life's work handed on, then the incentive to improve and beautify the countryside will be removed and the landscape of England, which is mostly man-made, will slowly fall into decay. Since my father had the foresight and generosity to give me a farm of 25 years ago, I have to the best of my ability, cultivated and improved my land and cared for my friends who live within its boundaries. Like many other land owners in this beautiful county of Hampshire, have tried to make available as much opportunity as possible for public access and I support the county council's efforts to lease or acquire, by agreement, areas for country parks and picnic sites in suitable settings. As a fervent believer in democracy and a supporter for many years of much of the philosophy of the welfare state and improvements in opportunities for all, may I please beg those who seek to break up the farms and country estates for doctrine rather than for a reason to consider carefully the damaging effect this policy will have on agricultural prosperity and on the fabric of the countryside which has been cherished by the whole community for so many generations? Yours faithfully, PORCHESTER, Milford Lake House, Burghclere, Newbury, Berkshire.

D-Day commemoration

From Brigadier Sir Alexander Stanier Sir, Having just returned from the Normandy beaches, I am disappointed at the small amount of space in the press given to the 30th anniversary of the landings in France. Particularly to the spirit of the occasion, which means so much to the small towns and villages liberated by the British liberation army in 1944. For my part, I shall ever remember the packed church at Asnelles-sur-Mer where the service ended with the singing of *Auld Lang Syne*. Later the naming of the roads from the beach—Devonshire Drive, Hampshire after the infantry regiments who came that way on June 6, 1944. The inauguration of the trees and shrubs given by the British to surround the village memorial. Buried in a simple ceremony in the beautifully kept cemetery at Bayeux amongst the 4,000 graves. Yet again at Hotot (pop 200) in the bocage country where much heavy fighting took place. Here we stood in the centre of the village whilst the children sang *God Save the Queen*, in English. A moving and proud moment. Everywhere we went we were welcomed and offered hospitality. We and the inhabitants did not come to commemorate war, but instead to once again remember the friendship and gratitude extended in 1944 and still very much alive in 1974. Yours faithfully, ALEXANDER STANIER, The Manor, East Farndon, Market Harborough, Leicestershire. June 11.

A cruiser from Jutland

From Mr A. W. Thorburn Sir, With reference to the letter headed "A Cruiser from Jutland" regarding HMS Caroline (May 31), I believe that Calliope, the flagship of the 4th Light Cruiser Squadron from the Battle of C. Le. (May 31), (of which Caroline was a member) in which I served as a Third Writer, at Jutland, is at Newcastle as headquarters of the RNVR there, so why should not she be restored and preserved rather than Caroline? Yours faithfully, ALEX W. THORBURN, Longview, 11a Great Wheatley Rd., Rayleigh, Essex. May 31.

Half a skeleton in the cupboard

From Mrs Joan Tucker Sir, When my elder son began his medical training seven years ago he paid £10 for half a human skeleton. Three years later my younger son entered medical school, and the value of these bones had risen to £20. My daughter is soon to train as a physiotherapist, and one of her requirements is half a human skeleton. And the cost now? £40 to £50. What better investment than a skeleton in the cupboard? Yours faithfully, JOAN TUCKER, 55 Morrab Road, Penzance, Cornwall, June 11.

Dress in court

From Mrs Barbara Kew Sir, It was interesting to read that a young solicitor's clerk was considered improperly dressed in court because she was wearing trousers. In departments of social service up and down the country young social workers are familiar with this problem. I know of no case where a social worker has been asked to leave court, but certainly made outside court by formal and informal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Freeing gunmen in Germany

From Lord Janner Sir, Some weeks ago you devoted space on your centre pages to Willy Brandt's apprehension at the anti-political trends within western Europe after the destruction of the Nazi tyranny. The parliamentary and economic instability of most western governments and, in Italy's case, economic problems compounded with violent inter-party rivalries, seems to bear out the former Chancellor's argument. It is depressingly ironic, however, that it should be the Federal Republic which has so conspicuously failed to resist the demands of the international "demolition squad" gnawing away at the fabric of our social and political order. After the Munich Olympics tragedy the surviving Arab gunmen were unconditionally released by West Germany. Today two more convicted terrorists were set free, not as a result of an act of terrorism but in fact in anticipation of disruption at the World Cup. Herr Schmidt's government has clearly demonstrated the vulnerability of West Germany to similar operations and will undoubtedly give encouragement to those forces who believe in the legitimacy of violent tactics as a means of creating social and political change. We may all have to bear the cost of today's political misjudgment. Yours sincerely, JANNER, House of Lords. June 12.

Deported from West Bank

From Dr Walid Kamhawi Sir, Last December I was one of eight Palestinian Arabs deported from the West Bank by the Israeli authorities. At midnight, on December 10, 1973, the Pay of Human Rights, we were simultaneously visited by members of the Israeli Security Forces. Arrested, blindfolded and most of us handcuffed, we were forcibly led out of our homes. No warning of what was to befall us had been given, no time allowed us to bid farewell to our families or collect our personal effects. After seven hours of seemingly aimless driving, we were dumped in the Wadi Araba desert area and persuaded at bayonet point (demonstrated by the use of us) to walk in the direction of the Jordanian lines. No charges have since been brought against us, and, as far as we can determine, we were merely the latest victims of the favourite Israeli policy of arbitrary banishment of Palestinian civic leaders. At present, we are separated from our homes and families. We have no idea whether and when we will be back. At our age, it is difficult for us to start again from scratch, as we are already well advanced in our homeland. Consequently, we have no means of livelihood and we are unable to secure the needs of our dependants. We do not consider the Israeli occupation authorities to have any legal grounds for the action which they took against us. Naturally, we reject the Israeli occupation of our homeland; but we have transgressed no law or convention in doing so. We declare ourselves ready to return at any time and face any charges the Israelis may bring against us. We appeal to you to convey this readiness to the Israeli authorities. And we appeal through you to British and world opinion to help us in securing what we believe we are entitled to as human beings (whether under occupation or not): a fair trial. If the Israeli authorities would prove incapable of giving us such a trial, we still would prefer imprisonment, however unjustified, in our own homeland, to banishment from it. We sincerely hope that we will be accorded more support similar to that given by Britain and the Western countries to Alexander Solzhenitsyn and many others. Such support will greatly strengthen us in resisting the injustice by which Israel has separated us from our land and families. Yours, WALID KAMHAWI (for the eight expelled Palestinians), 105 Grand Building, Trafalgar Square, WC2.

Activities of priests

From the Reverend Joseph O'Hanlon Sir, One must agree with Mr J. W. Kennedy (June 11) that the failure of the Catholic hierarchy to condemn unequivocally the activities of some few priests must give cause for concern and scandal. One might add that some clarification of the moral implications of hunger-striking might not have gone amiss recently. But whatever the reasons for their silence on these matters (and we await explanation), it cannot be maintained with any degree of seriousness that the bishops condone criminal actions. Nor is it consistent with any available evidence to suggest that, in relation to the Ulster troubles, the Irish clergy in Britain are insensitive to the feelings of their hosts. Are we to believe that the whole body of Irish clergy in this country lends moral or political support to bombers, bank robbers, kidnappers or even hunger strikers? Allegations of this kind demand considerable evidence. It is scarcely in accord with the demands of justice to accuse so many dedicated Christians of causing very severe damage to the Church without recourse to substantiation. It is at least possible that the guest, and not the host, is the offended party. Yours faithfully, JOSEPH O'HANLON, St Hugh's College, Tollerham, Northampton.

Non-stick stamps

From Mr P. Nicholls Sir, Mr R. A. S. Thomas (June 11) is quite right. If you lick the stamp a portion of the gum is removed by the tongue; whilst if you lick the envelope the whole of the gum remains on the stamp. Yours truly, P. NICHOLLS, Rush Common House, Abingdon, Oxfordshire.

Half a skeleton in the cupboard

From Mrs Joan Tucker Sir, When my elder son began his medical training seven years ago he paid £10 for half a human skeleton. Three years later my younger son entered medical school, and the value of these bones had risen to £20. My daughter is soon to train as a physiotherapist, and one of her requirements is half a human skeleton. And the cost now? £40 to £50. What better investment than a skeleton in the cupboard? Yours faithfully, JOAN TUCKER, 55 Morrab Road, Penzance, Cornwall, June 11.

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GUARDIAN INVESTMENT TRUST

Mr. M. B. Baring's Review

The eighth Annual General Meeting of the Guardian Investment Trust Company Limited will be held on July 4th, in London. The following is the statement of the Chairman, Mr. M. B. Baring, circulated with the Report and Accounts for the year ended March 31st, 1974.

RESIGNATION OF MR. G. L. C. TOUCHE

Mr. George Touche told your Board in November he wished to spend less time in the City and to expand more of his undiminished energy on other interests, and so it was with regret that we had to accept not only his resignation as Chairman but also, at his insistence, his retirement from the Board.

Mr. Touche served the Company as Chairman for eight years, having joined the Board as a Director in July 1957, and your Company has been fortunate to have had such a distinguished and well-known Chairman whose career and leadership in the Investment Trust world has been recognised as second to none. His wisdom and decisive moral integrity was spiced by humour and a sense of fun so that he was respected and greatly liked by all who worked for this Company.

Now any skill, virtue or vice of a new Chairman will gradually, or perhaps suddenly, be put to the test. I appreciate the opportunity my colleagues have given me and will rely considerably on the advice they are so well qualified to offer and hope we shall continue to work as a strong team.

LOW LEVEL OF STOCK MARKET

The past year has been the most difficult and frustrating for our work that I can remember and this is reflected in the depressingly low level of the Stock Market. The investor is still faced with a great deal of uncertainty, such as the possible imminence of another General Election and the details of the Chancellor's proposed second Budget. Moreover the acute deterioration in the balance of payments, which has been greatly aggravated by the massive rise in oil prices, has surely created the need for all to co-operate in a national effort to restore economic equilibrium.

SOME IMPROVEMENT EXPECTED THIS YEAR

Against this background, it is not going to be an easy year for your Trust. The world's economies are all suffering from massive inflation, and in the U.K. the equity investor is still handicapped by the retention of dividend control which deprives him of an important part of his compensation for being the provider of risk capital. Nevertheless, it is hoped that the current level of the U.K. market now largely discounts the acknowledged problems which lie ahead and, accordingly, I feel that it is not unreasonable to expect some improvement in stock market levels during the current year.

Datsun Cherry leads the Beetle in UK list of imported car sales

By Edward Townsend

The Datsun Cherry has emerged as the best selling imported car in Britain. In the first five months of the year, sales of the Japanese model totalled 6,767, a few hundred more than its nearest rival, the Volkswagen Beetle.

In May two Datsun models, the Cherry with sales of 1,525 and the Sunny with 1,442, were first and second most popular foreign cars.

The figures, released today by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, also show that the importers' share of the United Kingdom car market

although fairly static in the five-month period, dropped from 27.15 per cent in May last year to 26.11 per cent last month.

In a total United Kingdom market depressed by 23 per cent over May last year, Renault retained its position as leading importer followed by Datsun, Fiat and Volkswagen.

New registrations of British Leyland cars were down from 43,630 in May, last year, to 35,930. But the company managed to boost its overall share of the market from 29.82 per cent to 31.88 per cent. Over the five months, BLMC's market penetration was 34.51 per cent.

Ford, which makes the best selling car in Britain, the Corsair, saw its market share rise from 22.89 per cent last May, 1973, to 25.24 per cent last month. Second in the best selling list is the Ford Escort followed by the Mini, Marina, Vauxhall Viva, Hillman Avenger and the Allegro.

Vauxhall's market share dropped to 6.69 per cent last month against 8.30 per cent in May, 1973, and registrations dipped from 12,157 to 7,539.

The total market for cars in the United Kingdom in the five months was 554,182 vehicles, of which 139,743 were imported.

Scrap tyres could yield oil

By Clifford Webb

The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, of America, has announced plans for a full-scale evaluation of a remarkable recovery process which transforms unwanted scrap tyres into oil, carbon black and steel.

Mr Charles Pilioid, Goodyear's chairman, said: "We estimate that one full-scale scrap tyre recovery plant, if proven feasible could annually recover enough petrol chemicals and other materials from eight million scrap tyres to build an additional two million tyres a year including the energy necessary to produce them."

He said that Goodyear scientists believed that the recycled oil could be further refined for a wide range of uses, from manufacturing additional rubber products to heating homes. It could also be processed and used as a component in lead-free petrol.

The disposal of 200 million scrap tyres annually is one of the world's biggest environmental problems.

The new recovery process has been developed by Tosco, an American oil shale company. It has been tested in a pilot plant handling 25 tons of tyres a day and is said to be ready for evaluation.

Goodyear is talking in terms of eight million scrap tyres producing 15 million gallons of oil, 75 million lb of carbon black and two million lb of steel.

Business appointments



Mr J. A. Herfurth, who becomes director-general of the American Chamber of Commerce (United Kingdom) on August 1. For the past eight years he has been the United States Consul General responsible for consulates in Britain.

Changes at the top for Metal Closures Group

Changes have been made to the main and subsidiary boards of the Metal Closures Group. Mr J. Boden becomes executive chairman of the group and Mr J. Houghton sole group managing director. Mr N. C. Billson is appointed an additional director, and Mr W. R. Gamble resigns from the board and from subsidiaries. Mr W. Roberts becomes group secretary in succession to Mr V. Nash, who resigns from the post but remains on the board. At Metal Closures Ltd, Mr Boden is appointed chairman and Mr Cassera managing director. Mr Cassera also becomes chairman of Johnson Bros Closures and the Stopper Manufacturing Co. Mr Nash becomes chairman of Ideal Capsules, and Mr Houghton has been made president of Alcapa Italiana Spa, but resigns from the boards of all other United Kingdom subsidiaries.

Mr W. C. Thomson is to become chairman and Mr G. E. Fairclough managing director of Shell Chemicals UK from September 1. Mr E. J. Mackay is resigning from the post to take up an appointment outside the Shell group.

Mr C. T. Smith has been appointed regional director, Europe, for Rolls-Royce (1971) from July 15. He will be based in Paris at Rolls-Royce (France). Mr Michael Warren becomes manager of the Paris office.

Sir Frederick Casherwood will join the board of William Matheson and Denny Mott.

The following have been appointed dealing directors of the Charles Filton Group: Mr J. A. Beard, Mr D. M. Barrett, Mr J. Daltry, Mr J. Fobister, Mr A. Hogben, Mrs Angela Howarth, Mr J. Little, Mr R. Pheasant, Mr P. D. Porter, Mr A. R. Prime and Mr W. S. Thomson.

Mr John Ellis has been made vice-president of the Midland National Bank in charge of the bank's European activities and head of the bank's London representative office.

Mr S. Benjamin, Mr P. D. Jones, Mr E. G. Scarfield, Mr D. R. Spackman and Mr F. R. Wales have been elected to the council of the Institute of Actuaries.

Mr V. C. Malton has been appointed a director of Winstone Securities.

Mr C. F. E. Scruby, senior partner of Sir Frederic Snow and Partners, has been elected chairman of the Association of Consulting Engineers.

Mr R. S. Owers has been appointed director of Bahamas International Trust Co on the retirement of Mr Harold Revington.

Mr H. Hollnashed, chairman of Kearley and Tonge, has been elected chairman of the British Importers Confederation in succession to Mr E. Cave.

Mr Richard Lewis has been made a regional director of the South Wales regional board of Lloyds Bank.

Handwritten signature: Joseph Volera

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION To the Holders of Government of New Zealand Twelve Year 6 3/4% Bonds due July 15, 1979

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the provisions of the Bonds of the above-described issue, Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York as Fiscal Agent, has drawn by lot for redemption on July 15, 1974 a principal amount thereof through operation of the Sinking Fund of \$769,000 principal amount of said Twelve Year 6 3/4% Bonds due July 15, 1979 bearing the following distinctive numbers:

Table listing bond numbers and amounts for redemption, including columns for bond number, amount, and interest.

On July 15, 1974, the Bonds designated above will become due and payable at the principal amount thereof in such coin or currency of the United States of America as is legal tender for the payment thereof of public and private debts, and will be paid upon surrender thereof at the corporate office of Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, 15 Broad Street, New York, N.Y. 10005, or at the option of the bearer or registered holder but subject to any laws and regulations applicable thereto in the country of any of the following offices, at the offices of Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York in Antwerp, Brussels, Frankfurt, London or Paris, or at the office of S. Warburg & Co. Limited in London.

GOVERNMENT OF NEW ZEALAND

June 13, 1974

NOTICE

The following Bonds previously called for redemption have not as yet been presented for payment:

Table listing bond numbers and amounts for redemption that have not been presented for payment.

Advertisement for CREDITO ITALIANO featuring a large '10' and the text 'another year of expansion'. Includes a table of financial data: CAPITAL LIT. 45,000,000,000; RESERVES LIT. 16,500,000,000; FUNDS ADMINISTERED LIT. 8,187,658,431,881; STAFF 11,745.

Advertisement for Credito Italiano with logo and text: Head Office: Milan; 304 Branches in Italy; Branches in London and New York; Representative Offices in Buenos Aires, Chicago, Frankfurt a/M, New York, Paris, São Paulo, Tokyo and Zürich.

Condensed Statement of Condition The Fuji Bank, Ltd. (As of March 31, 1974). Table showing assets and liabilities in millions of dollars and yen. Assets include Cash and Due from Banks, Call Loans, Securities, etc. Liabilities include Deposits, Call Money, Borrowed Money, etc. Total assets and liabilities are 7,996,379,408.

Advertisement for Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC) with logo and text: An outstandingly successful year. CDC's Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for 1973 is summarised below. Operations in 1973: On all counts 1973 was an outstandingly successful year. New commitments at £48.26m were a record and increased CDC's total commitment to £243.5m in 233 projects. Other sectors: New commitments other than agricultural were spread fairly evenly over industrial projects and basic development, including power and water supply and housing. Training: During the year more nationals of developing countries than ever before were trained in new skills and techniques. Needs of poorer nations: World inflation and the energy crisis may well result in a reassessment by industrialised countries of the level of financial assistance which they are prepared to offer to the developing world.

rs over effects of tion on flow of aid ie Commonwealth

Westlake that inflation and crisis may lead to a flow of aid to nations from the d countries is ex- the Commonwealth Corporation report

when, because of ces beyond their world's poorer coun- suffering just as the more affluent is the "earliest CDC that develop- augmented rather- bed"

is particularly fear- night be compelled funds to reject for investment in new development n the expansion of and economically projects already in

says that 1973 was out successful years 's 25-year history ch will be hard to light of economic prevailing. A \$1,000 of new in- approved by the last year for new and the expansion projects (31). isbursements (as

opposed to commitments) of 22.3m brought total investment to £180.7m. The Corporation's gross trading income reached a record £16.3m and the operating surplus at £14m, was also a record.

It is from this surplus that interest on Treasury loans, provisions against possible losses and other charges are met (al- though it is a semi-independent aid agency, the CDC is obliged by its charter to make a profit).

The CDC says that agri- cultural projects formed a much larger proportion—about one third—of new commitments than in previous years. Once again Africa claimed the great- est share of new CDC commit- ments, with 57 per cent of the total.

New commitments in 1973, other than agricultural com- mitments, were spread fairly evenly over industrial projects and basic development, includ- ing electricity and water supply and housing.

The CDC reports such a heavy demand in poorer Com- monwealth countries for in- expensive housing that it has sought to use its limited finan- cial resources in this sector to attract finance from other sources. These efforts have met with some success, it says.

Chief speaks of growth dilemma

ld be on the verge cal advance, and of its poor invest- could be a blessing- according to Mr Len- nary of the Trades

view, published in tion of The Direc- says that because s Britain has a chnological base, ould have an edge rs in the next y address our- y to the problem " if there are histor- s for this, notably ghteenth and mid- nuries.

y says that one of mes of the age is- country can recon- ce unique qualities t.

chauvinistic per- ere is something itish way of life

which is very rare and to me is very precious indeed. And this is the dilemma we face", he continues.

Mr Murray believes in "creative tension" as far as worker-management relations are concerned, and says that friction between different groups makes things move along.

Referring to incomes policy and the concept of a "social contract" as an alternative to a compulsory policy, he feels that the social compact is a project far wider than simply an incomes policy.

An incomes policy is too often just a matter of wages restraint. This may be a temporary need at present but it's no long-term solution to our problems.

"I want higher living stand- ards for workers. I know you have to make an effort to get them. And leading on from this, the social contract or compact must include a far wider range of national objectives—social and economic."

biggest ore wins g consent

gained planning 100,000 sq ft is biggest yet. The Secretary has company's plan- to develop a at Irlam, near

Porter, the chair- ighly delighted " and now more a dozen other p has in the pipe-

sterday: " Super- give us the demonstrate how- ices significantly. ent at Irlam will with its biggest ring in the region: gross, all on one rface car parking ately 1,000 cars. many other cus- es and provision made for consid- ing of the site". ct's work will start superstore shortly up application had d favourably by county planning but, because of the development, the f the Environment: application

Consolidated EXPLORATION NY LIMITED

of DIVIDEND No. 99

interim report and dividend in the year 1974, the conversion to payments in U.K. has been met. The dividend is £1.0175 equivalent to the rate of South African Shareholder's tax in London Securities and Investment Limited, born, Yonkers, N.Y., U.S.A. The office of the London Secretary is: c. Station Road, Cent. TN23 1QB

L COLD STORAGE AND MPANY LIMITED

of the Republic of South Africa

DIVIDEND ON SHARERS

notice of the intention of the company to pay a dividend in the year 1974, the convertible in payments in U.K. has been met. The dividend is £1.0175 equivalent to the rate of South African Shareholder's tax in London Securities and Investment Limited, born, Yonkers, N.Y., U.S.A. The office of the London Secretary is: c. Station Road, Cent. TN23 1QB

American firms found guilty of \$7.5m fraud

An American national accounting firm, Laventhol, Krekstein, Horowitz & Berntson and Allen and Co Inc, considered one of Wall Street's most sophisticated investment banking concerns, committed fraud in a 1969 private offering of \$7.5 about (£3m) in securities, a United States district judge has ruled.

Financial statements issued by the Firestone Group, a California real estate company, and audited by Laventhol were false and misleading, Judge Lloyd F. MacMahon of New York concluded. He said Allen and Co Inc, "encouraged" dissemination of the statements and was "equally culpable" with Laventhol.

Ronson denied order against Liquifin AG

Liquifin AG, said Judge Charles Tenney of the United States, denied Ronson Corporation's motion for a temporary restraining order against Liquifin and others in their proxy fight to gain control of Ronson's board.

In turn, Liquifin has filed a counter claim against Ronson, maker of lighters and appliances, alleging violations of securities laws in connection with Ronson's proxy solicitation.

ITT in Avis move

To meet the deadline for divesting itself of a 52 per cent interest in Avis Inc, International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation (ITT) is considering the sale of subordinated debentures that could be exchanged for Avis common stock.

The 1971 consent decrees that settled three Justice Department anti-trust suits require ITT to dispose of Avis and certain other subsidiaries and operations by September 24.

Multinationals plea

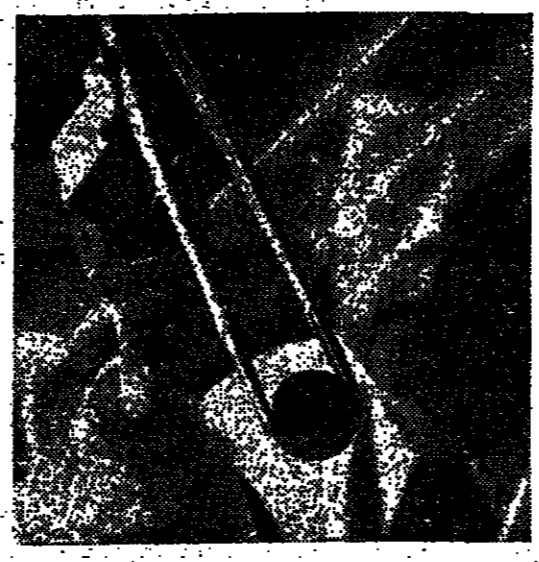
The United States has called on other countries to avoid "arbitrary and capricious actions" against multinational corporations. The call came at a three-week session of a United Nations conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) working group which is drafting a United Nations charter of economic rights and duties.

Weekly loss by broiler men put at £750,000

With present feed costs and selling prices the British broiler industry is losing about £750,000 a week, according to Lord Edward Fitzroy, chairman of the British Poultry Federation. He was speaking at the inaugura- tion in London yesterday of a new information service for the industry as a whole.

The service covers ducks and turkeys, as well as chickens and eggs. Mr Bernard Matthews said that a new promotion for small turkeys at low prices would be launched in about a fortnight's time, as a mid-winter lull. One object was to clear cold stores for the Christmas trade in larger birds.

When you are leading users of radio isotopes - what kind of engineers are you?



In brief, very, very advanced ones. When you manufacture machines that produce cigarettes at the rate of 4000 a minute (that's 66 every second), and ancillary equipment that counts them, weighs them and inspects them for flaws and tobacco density at that speed too, it is not difficult to understand the sort of precision involved.

That precision is achieved by expertise in many disciplines, including precise high speed mechanisms,

sophisticated electronic and nucleonic techniques—we are among Britain's leading users of radio isotopes—and the development and use of advanced numerically-controlled machine tools.

Then there's our printing, packaging and paper-handling machinery subsidiary, Masson Scott Thrissell, whose rotogravure machines can print 800 million multicolour food packs a year. That's a very precise business too.

Yes, precision engineering is our business and our high standard is one of the reasons we are world leaders in our field.

*Molins have co-operated closely with The Radiochemical Centre at Amersham, Bucks, for more than twenty years.

Molins Limited,
Evelyn Street,
London SE8 5DH.

MOLINS International Precision Engineers



M4

Combined English Stores Group Limited

Multiple Specialist Retailers operating 566 shops in the U.K. and Belgium

Chairman Murray Gordon reports:

"The public have demonstrated their preference for shopping in modern and attractive specialist shops such as ours and I am confident of the long term profitable development of the Group."

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Dorchester Hotel, London, on 12th June 1974. Copies of the report and accounts may be obtained from the Company Secretary, 1-6 Clay Street, London W.1.

Year	Profit before tax (£000's)
1970	331
1971	624
1972	973
1973	2522
1974	3179

ATLAS ELECTRIC AND GENERAL TRUST LIMITED

(Management Group: Touche, Remnant & Co.)

The following are salient points from the report and accounts of the company for the year to 31st March, 1974.

- The recommended final dividend for the year is 0.70p which together with the interim dividend of 0.35p and Shareholders imputed tax credits of approximately 0.49p is equal to a total gross dividend of 1.54p compared with 1.40p. The Board is confident that the increased dividend can be maintained.
- The valuation of investments at 31st March, 1974, was £52,891,349 compared with £74,435,658 last year. This figure includes £2,862,077 being the full investment currency premium of 27 per cent.
- Asset value per share is 43½p compared with 61½p the previous year and includes 2.6p (1.9p) representing the investment currency premium.
- Immediate prospects for the U.K. economy are still obscure but many of the bearish factors should be discounted at present levels. In addition there are several favourable longer-term factors: U.K. exports are now very competitive on a price basis, the possible benefits of North Sea Oil are steadily coming nearer and growing in size and there are signs that the rise in commodity prices is coming to an end.
- The market values as at 31st March, 1974, of the twenty largest investments (convertibles and all classes of equity in any one company being treated as one investment) were as follows:—

Market Value at 31.3.74		Market Value at 31.3.74	
£000	£000	£000	£000
Jardine Japan Fund	2,115	Standard & Chartered Banking Gp.	739
General Electric Co.	1,635	Allied Breweries	716
"Shell" Transport & Trading	1,095	Jardine Eastern Trust	650
George Wimpey	1,088	Imperial Chemical Industries	630
Indochine	994	Hongkong & Shanghai Bkng. Corp.	625
Royal Dutch Petroleum N.V.	975	Thorn Electrical Industries	622
Unilever N.V.	963	Rio Tinto-Zinc	585
Burmah Oil	897	Sphere Investment Trust	580
Barclays Bank	768	Unilever	570
Anglo American Investment Trust	765	Grand Metropolitan	560

These investments total £17,511,529 or 33.1 per cent. of the portfolio.

PROGRESS DURING THE LAST TEN YEARS

Year to 31st March	Total income £000	Gross Ordinary dividend per share p	Total assets less current liabilities £	Net asset value of Ordinary share p	Ordinary share price	Index: 1964=100 of retail prices	Dividend per Ord. share	Net Asset value
1965	2,111	1.042	39,322	29	102	105	119	100
1969	2,088	1.208	68,360	55½	164	125	138	151
1973	2,179	1.40	75,069	61½	180	165	160	212
1974	2,928	1.54	58,304	43½	116	184	176	150

Copies of the Report and Accounts can be obtained from the Secretary, 3 London Wall Buildings, London, EC2M 5PE.

Six main points in monetary reform proposals

From Frank Vogl
Washington, June 12

The decisions being taken on international monetary reform by the Committee of Twenty in Washington this week are based largely on a lengthy report, *Outline of Reform*, prepared by the committee's deputies. Committee sources said that almost every recommendation in it will be accepted.

The unpublished report starts by noting that "it is agreed that there is need for a reformed world monetary order, based on cooperation and consultation within the framework of a strengthened International Monetary Fund, that will encourage the growth of world trade and employment, promote economic development and help to avoid both inflation and deflation."

An important section of the *Outline of Reform* is devoted to immediate decisions that can be taken this week, all of which are likely to be agreed upon.

The report says that "an

amendment of the articles of agreement (of the IMF) will be introduced to enable the Fund to legalize the position of countries with floating rates during the interim period."

Further, countries "will pledge themselves for the time being not to introduce or intensify trade or other current account measures for balance of payments purposes without the prior agreement of the Fund that there is balance of payments justification."

"In this connexion appropriate arrangements will be made for coordination between the fund and the G20. An amendment of the articles of agreement will be introduced, having similar effect to the above mentioned pledge."

The *Outline of Reform* notes that there will be agreement on a new definition of special drawing rights, on the establishment of a ministerial council within the IMF, which will need an amendment in the articles of agreement, on the acceptance of general guidelines

for floating and on procedures on how to reduce the international monetary role of gold.

Finally, the deputies recommend that a joint ministerial committee of the IMF and the World Bank should be established, to carry forward the study of the broad question of the transfer of real resources of developing countries.

Significantly, this final suggestion has little support among European countries, but the United States is pushing it strongly and it seems certain to be accepted, as the developing countries are threatening to wreck the whole meeting unless this new ministerial committee is established.

Mr Paul Volcker, Under-Secretary at the American Treasury, has said that the *Outline of Reform* is of major significance.

The future monetary system should consist, the Committee of Twenty believes, of arrangements covering the following six main points:

- 1, an exchange rate regime based on stable, but adjustable par values, with allowance under special circumstances for floating, subject to the approval of the IMF;
- 2, powers should be granted to the IMF to ensure cooperation in dealing with disequilibrating capital flows;
- 3, an appropriate form of convertibility should be introduced for the settlement of imbalances, with symmetrical obligations on all countries, which could be done through an IMF "substitution account" allowing countries to exchange reserves for SDRs at the Fund;
- 4, better international management of global liquidity should emerge, possibly with the IMF setting hard rules on reserves accumulation, and applying pressures on countries when such rules are not adhered to;
- 5, under IMF direction, greater consistency should be organized between arrangements for convertibility and global liquidity;

6, strong efforts should be made and improved systems adopted for the promotion of the net flow of real resources to developing countries.

The deputies have agreed that a system of objective indicators should be used in the adjustment process, based on reserves. However, the details have not been agreed on this and a big difficulty is that if the system becomes too rigid the development of a country's reserves, in a definite direction, could produce currency speculation in the markets long before the IMF decided that special allowance should be given for a change in the currency's par value.

The deputies are in equal disagreement, the *Outline of Reform* shows, on the sort of pressures that the IMF should be allowed to apply on countries. The most radical pressure, for example, is for countries to be ordered by the IMF to apply discriminatory trade and other current account restrictions against a country with persistent payments surpluses.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Need for public financing of BSI activities

From Mr J. G. B. Hills

Sir, Your article (June 7) did not mention the increasing and important work of the British Standards Institution in the provision of "Codes of Practice" for many industrial and constructional activities. The need for these is unfortunately borne out by the increasing number of untoward incidents reported in the press.

The proposed basis for increased subscriptions seems to be unfair to those firms and public bodies which, directly or indirectly, support the work of the institution with substantial assistance from their technical staffs.

The content of "Specifications and Codes of Practice" naturally becomes more complex as industry develops, in whatever direction, and much of their compilation depends on persons who are immediately in touch with the applications of the documents.

In particular, the preparation of "Codes of Practice" requires detailed knowledge of the conditions where some test is made or some customary construction will become unrel-

able. Both British Standards and Codes of Practice are prepared by meetings of panels and sub-panels of experts nominated by various trade associations and public bodies.

These persons are largely drawn from the senior technical staffs of member firms. The meetings are necessarily devoted to the criticism of draft documents and ensuring that details are not overlooked. The work done by the members outside the meetings.

The writer, whose employment in industry took part in many gatherings of this kind and found that on an average about two man-weeks of highly technical work with supporting office services was needed for each. The cost of this had to be found by his employers in addition to his salary and expenses for attending the meetings.

The present need for greater productivity at all levels in industry has led to less time being available for work of this kind. There have already been serious delays in the provision of adequate codes of practice

for, among other matters, sure vessel design, an on chemical plant, or disposal of dangerous wastes by safety valves. It may be argued that British Standards Institution is undertaking work which should be done by Government departments, research institutions, universities. How structure of our Civil and the need for the people in touch with industrial problems alternative approach could.

Surely it is time vital activities, which are organized in suits to our "British life", were financed by public funds as the least are in other countries would be deplorable. The Institution is currently further to town planning requirements.

Yours faithfully,
J. G. B. HILLS,
Chartered Engineer,
"Oakmere",
Cadeau Road,
Cambridge,
Cornwall.

Faster pace seen in UK investment overseas

The level of outward direct investment by British companies rose by a modest 8 per cent between 1971 and 1972, but nearly doubled between 1972 and 1973. These are some of the results of a quarterly survey conducted by the Department of Industry and published in *Trade and Industry*.

Earnings on outward investment rose by more than a quarter between 1971 and 1972, in part caused by the effect of the floating of the pound on the sterling value of British earnings abroad.

The further decline in the value of the pound last year, together with the rapid rises in the prices of commodities, contributed to a 50 per cent increase in earnings between 1972 and 1973.

Overseas direct investment in Britain fell back in 1972 to a level only slightly higher than that of 1970; but it rose substantially—by between a half and two-thirds—between 1972 and 1973.

Foreign earnings on this inward investment rose by about one-third between 1971 and 1972, more than matching the rise in British gross trading profits.

The situation in the motor industry in the latter part of 1973 was a contributory factor to the more modest rise of less than a fifth in foreign earnings from Britain in that year.

Home engineering orders decline

By Edward Townsend

The trend of net new orders received by the engineering industry from home market customers in recent months has fallen by up to 13 per cent, to below the level for sales.

As a result, according to the government journal *Trade and Industry* today, the level of orders on hand on a seasonally adjusted basis fell marginally throughout the industry during the three months to the end of February.

A brighter picture has emerged on the export front. While the trend of net new export orders fell by some 3 per cent in the period, orders were coming in from abroad at a greater rate than sales, result-

ing in an 8 per cent rise in export orders on hand.

Home sales fell by 8 per cent in the three months to the end of February, and this largely accounted for a 6 per cent drop in total sales over the previous three months.

It is stressed that the lower level of sales in the engineering industry probably only partly reflected the fall in production caused by the three-day week.

Home sales in January were 10 per cent down on the fourth quarter of 1973, but partially recovered in February, probably due to a run down of stocks and work in progress.

Machine tool sales rose 71 per cent over a year ago and Britain's machine tool industry fared better than expected

during the fuel crisis and the three-day week, according to *Trade and Industry*. Sales in the first quarter of 1974 stood at £55m—2 per cent higher than the previous three months.

Quoting for the first time, figures for the period covered by the three-day week, it is revealed that new export orders received during the first quarter were worth £33m, or 50 per cent more than a year ago and 8 per cent higher than in the previous quarter.

Machine tool companies had more than £210m worth of orders outstanding at the end of the quarter—an increase of 71 per cent over a year ago and 9 per cent more than at the end of last year.

Europe asks OPEC not to raise tax

Brussels, June 12.—The nine EEC countries are collectively urging the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) not to increase taxes on oil companies when its members meet in Quito, Ecuador, on Saturday.

In an aide-memoire being delivered somewhat reluctantly by the West Germans to the OPEC secretariat, the Nine point out that the recent high profits announced by the main oil companies are attributable to highly unusual circumstances.

They argue that present profits are not large enough to absorb an increase in taxation, which would therefore be passed on to the consumer, thus aggravating inflation.

Finally, the Nine indicate that they will continue to keep an eye on the oil market to ensure that the companies do not make excessive profits.

Cool reply to BLMC strike call

By R. W. Shakespeare

A union call for a 24-hour strike by some 4,000 British Leyland white collar workers, in support of demands for a cost-of-living threshold pay increase, drew only a lukewarm response yesterday.

Only about half of the union members—the Association of Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff (AEXCS)—responded to the call.

About 2,000 APEX members at the Austin-Morris car plant at Longbridge, Birmingham, decided to stay at work; but at the Austin-Morris plant at Cowley, Oxford, a stoppage by clerical workers halted car production, and some 2,000 manual workers had to be sent home.

At other British Leyland

factories throughout the country, including the rest of the Midlands car plants and the bus and truck centres in Lancashire, Scotland and Middlesex, groups of clerical workers, including those responsible for production control work, joined the stoppage. But vehicle output was not seriously affected.

The union is demanding that its members receive the £1.20 a week increase which becomes payable to some eight million other workers in Britain after the latest Retail Price Index announced last month. However, the existing agreement between the union and British Leyland contains no threshold clause.

Another one-day strike is planned for next Wednesday, and the union is also calling for an overtime ban and a work-to-

rule by all its members in British Leyland.

Other disputes over the application of threshold pay increases are continuing. At the Plessey Telecommunications factory at Beeston, Nottinghamshire, about 6,000 manual and white collar workers have been staging a sit-in. Production has been at a standstill since Monday.

This came after the breakdown in negotiations with the management and a protest about a management decision to lay off 4,000 shop-floor workers.

At the Pye telecommunications factory at Dinton, Cambridgeshire, 70 test engineers staged a stoppage yesterday, also over a threshold agreement.

Their union, also APEX, plans to call a similar strike at Pye's Hethershall factory in Suffolk either today or tomorrow.

Jaundiced view of commercial radio in London

From Mr J. Whitley

Sir, *Business Diary's* Look at Independent radio (June 4) appeared to take a somewhat jaundiced view of commercial radio in London.

It was suggested that, first, national advertisers were hesitant about using either London stations because of information on the size and type of audience was scant and, secondly, that the listening levels that had been achieved did not justify current rates charged.

Certainly in the case of Capital Radio, the conclusions drawn are totally incorrect. The Top ten advertisers on television in April included travel, beverages, home decorating, drink, stores, food and household goods—Capital attracted national advertisers which fell within each of these classifications within the same month.

Since Capital Radio went on

the air last October, approximately 60 per cent of advertising on national television has originated through national advertisers and some 25,000 commercials have been transmitted.

Media buyers in agencies which have followed the progress of independent radio will know that Capital Commissioned National Opinion Polls to carry out major research in January for the purpose of establishing Capital's profile and listenership.

The survey revealed that over a million Londoners listened to Capital Radio every day and that one in four Londoners tuned to Capital each week. Capital is rapidly becoming the choice station of Londoners with the survey showing a loyal audience, tuned for an average of 2 hours and 48 minutes each day. These facts were about our audience just

three months after C on the air.

Before the advent of capital radio, agency predictions that an cost for reaching 1 with a 30-second would vary from 6p to 30p. Since March, average cost per 1,000 12p—making radio better buy.

Since January, advertising receipts have not to climb, and it months which normal down-turn in television receipts indicates a rise for radio.

Indeed, there has a greater justified of Capital than there is a Yours faithfully,
John Whitley,
Managing Director,

Wrong impression about Occupational Pensions I

From Mr P. R. Oglesby

Sir, Mr Brunet's article on May 29 (Special Report on insurance) about the Government's decision not to proceed with the arrangements for "recognizing" occupational pension schemes gives the impression, no doubt unintentionally, that it was delay on the part of the Occupational Pensions Board in issuing detailed guidance that prevented pension scheme managers from going ahead with applications for recognition certificates. In

factness to the Occupational Pensions Board and their staff. I should like to correct that erroneous impression.

The Board were appointed and started work early in September last year. Little more than two months later, on November 21, they issued three memoranda giving the comprehensive guidance and information which employers and their advisers needed in order to get on with the job of making their applications. These three memoranda

were long and compelling largely with matters, and their presence such a short time, for of that sort, require long, hard work.

I am sure Mr Brunet that there was no delay on our part. Yours faithfully,
P. R. OGLESBY,
Secretary to the Oc Pensions Board,
16-19 Gresse Street,
London W1P 1PB.



"For senior recruitment, we have been most impressed by PER's speed, effectiveness and personal service"

Leonard Broughton

MATCHBOX

"We have consulted PER over the last year," continues Mr Broughton "when we wished to fill vacancies in personnel, training and general management at most levels. Several highly satisfactory appointments resulted. What has really impressed me and my department is the speed of the service. Within a few days of briefing them, PER can be relied upon to provide a good selection of suitably qualified candidates for us to choose from. And the standardised presentation of candidates' details makes this selection process quick and easy."

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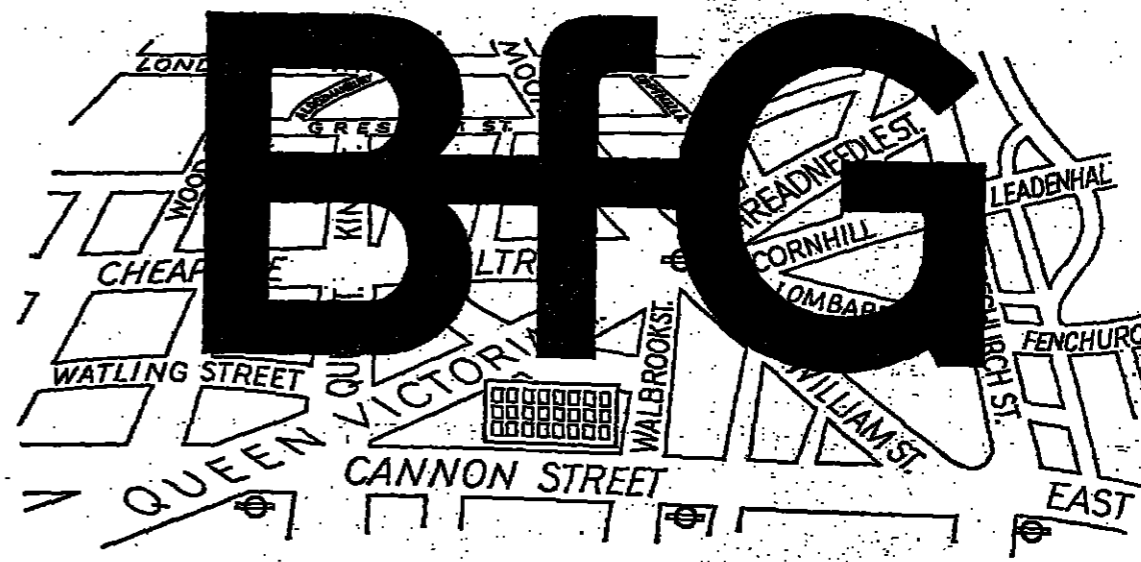
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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Freight rate momentum at Tate & Lyle

is currently the same line at Tate & Lyle so fearing reduced earnings is concerned. Just how playing the game is from the shipping market to £14.2m against expectations of around 10m.



Mr John O. Lyle, chairman of Tate & Lyle, strength in shipping and overseas.

tribution from shipping up from £1.9m to 25 to 36 per cent before central charges. True, shipping is in the second half ear, but it has done in better in the first year.

most companies in the group currently have satisfactory order books. Admittedly, losses were incurred in Northern Ireland during the general strike, but that having been accounted for in a p/e ratio of 4 on latest year's earnings of £1.5m (£1.87m).

CompAir After the power crisis

CompAir was already talking of a component shortage before the power crisis. The pessimistic statement at February's annual meeting that a "miracle" would be needed to produce satisfactory results this year only served to underline stock market fears already reflected in a share price of 52p compared with a 50p yesterday. The shares took a £0.3m fall in pre-tax profits for the six months to March 31 in their stride.

Now CompAir is talking of making up most of this shortfall in the second six months, with some analysts even talking of £6m pre-tax for the current year against £5.8m in 1972/73, which points to a prospective p/e ratio of a little under 5 accompanied by a 5.2 per cent yield.

CompAir was looking for £3m before tax in the opening six months. Whether short-time working has any lasting effect on the supply of bright-in components remains to be seen. But these accounts for between 30 and 70 per cent of CompAir's needs and with the acute shortage of diesel engines likely to be only a little easier by the year end, the implications for profits are clear.

Kensing Motor Judicious timing

Kensing Motor Group can thank its judgment in selling its Kaling property last year for some £3.4m that its interim figures have held up as well as they

have. For although both profits and turnover are down on the previous year, the financing problems which have beset some in the motor trade are notably less severe here.

Despite the general downturn in new car registrations and the difficulties in the used car market, Kensing has managed to contain stock levels successfully at the half-way stage and, with the proceeds of the property sale, financing charges have fallen from £0.5m to £0.4m. That, in turn, has enabled margins to be pegged at 2.6 per cent against 2.7 per cent in the comparable period, which is encouraging in the circumstances.

Electronic Rentals Another solid advance

Electronic Rentals had a dull enough start to the year but interim profits just 10 per cent up, but the market remained unimpressed with yesterday's preliminary figures, which showed profits usefully up by £0.68m to £3.4m pre-tax in the second half. As forecast in the interim statement, most of the running in the final six months was made by the group's camping division.

While this showed only modest improvement, from £1.95m to £1.2m over the year it was a lucky beneficiary of the fuel crisis, which gave a marked boost to the stove equipment side, resulting in a trebling of the second half contribution from £293,000 to £892,000. The superior performance of the upsurge seen in the opening months of the previous year.

On the rental side second half profits edged up from £2.1m to £2.4m, excluding the £111,000 losses the group is carrying overseas. In the current year this division is right in the firing line of recent government measures, particularly advance payments on rentals that have, on the group's estimation, resulted in a fall of 40 per cent in new placing in recent months. But ER also argues that the expansion seen in placings last year, reflected in depreciation charges up from £5.6m to £8.8m is enough to maintain income.

Webster goes

Harry Webster, 57-year-old technical director of Austin Morris, has resigned and is leaving British Leyland at the end of the month. Webster, an engineer of immense standing in the motor industry, was the senior adviser to Lord Stokes in 1968 to run the volume car operations of the newly merged Leyland-BMC empire. George Turnbull, managing director, and Filmer Paradise, sales director, were the others. Both resigned last year following disagreement over the reorganization of Austin Morris.

Quine suddenly, Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn, finds himself out in the open, with the hounds baying. This time the squabbling CBI pack is being put in full cry by its new president but who should be the new master but none other than the Prime Minister. It promises to be a lively time with Labour's rank-and-file and trade unionists dodging out of the underground as hunt saboteurs for the League Against Free Enterprise.

If some respected political commentators are to be believed, then Mr Wilson is taking personal command of Labour's industrial policy to reassure the private sector that the election manifesto was a worthless document. It seems that publication in The Times last month of Mr Benn's report to the TUC Labour Party Liaison Committee on the Department of Industry's current work programme has angered Mr Wilson, who, it must therefore be concluded, does not really want the rank-and-file and Cabinet Liaison committees he has created to perform their stated functions. They have no point if ministers cannot share their thoughts with those presumed a key ally of Labour Government.

Mackay moves

Changes of places and faces were revealed yesterday by the highest echelons of Shell in the UK arising from the departure later this year (for an as yet undisclosed destination) of Eric Mackay, the company's managing director and chairman. Mackay, who has been managing director for two and a half years and chairman for close on two, will formally depart from SCUK's headquarters in the Strand at the end of August to take up an appointment outside the Shell group.

It was generally expected that Mackay would be moving to another part of the oil industry, but it is clear that he is bound, Mackay for the moment is remaining tight-lipped. However it is thought to be overseas and almost certainly in the chemicals business. His career so far has largely been spent in foreign parts.

Barratt's way

We wondered how long it would be before the motor trade realized that the petrol crisis had given it a heaven-sent opportunity to make permanent cost savings on petrol sales. Now, thanks to men like David Barratt, managing director of Duff Morgan, British Leyland distributors in Norfolk, a campaign is getting under way to do just that.

The petrol shortage brought sharp reductions in the number of trading stamps offered, shorter opening hours and the huge give-away campaigns evaporated. Overnight the race was back to square one. What courageous individuals stands had failed to achieve was presented on a plate.

Business Diary: Another Gaullist head rolls

continue to roll in out favour to either hard (such as Jean-Yves Schreiber) or the new President. Yesterday it was one of the most hard-fought expostions of Gaullist ideology. Olivier will be removed from Governor of the Bank

replacement by Bernard Clappier, is likely to lead to a less ideological line being taken by the French in future monetary negotiations. Worraser was, along with Maurice Couve de Murville, the ex-diplomat who was for a time Prime Minister, one of the high priests of Gaullism. In France today the Gaullists are on the way out, the technicians are taking over.

now 61, was one of appointments made de Gaulle before he in 1969 after being a referendum. If glittering career in the Service of the in France, where the between civil servants make it usual to be firmly and uncommitted to a specific policy has been and he showed it in the early part when he was France's in Brussels during the negotiations entry to the Euro-

of his colleagues, apparently did not re-constructing elaborate about the EEC, instead, one participant, he smiling quietly to the answer came clatter of a portcu-

lanned the gate wall on Britain, Worraser become Ambassador's departure, and his

ministerial glad-handing round the country. He has seen businessmen and trade union leaders by the hundreds, but to talk about policy. Indeed, he is one of the first industry ministers for a long time to concentrate solely on the job - he was appointed to do.

Industrialists tell me that Mr Benn's bombastic behaviour under the Prime Minister's minority. Nationalization, they say, is unpopular, so are the other ideas for more state controls. Yet what is worrying is that they may be met another way. Industrialists must come forward more readily themselves to argue with opponents or critics, not always leaving it to CBI leaders.

The most improve the quality of CBI research—and get more out of the admittedly already hard-worked committees. If it means more money to be trumped up, industry will respond, but only if it thinks it gets value for higher subscriptions.

When Mr Benn, as he has been doing lately, sets out the sums of state aid poured into the private industry, then someone must come forward to examine what he says and argue it out. A false validity can be given to some of the things Mr Benn and others are saying when they remain unchallenged, or not resisted with conviction and consistency.

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It was being stressed yesterday that there was nothing simple about the Mackay move, simply that he wanted to move on, and at his level in Shell's chemical operations, the only in-house move would be sideways or downwards.

Taking over as chairman of the UK company will be Bill Thomson, one of the triumvirate of co-directors for Shell's chemical activities and a director of SCUK. Gerard Fairclough, at present marketing director, will become managing director.

Maurice Corina on the state intervention row CBI's need to define private sector role

But, before I am accused of rushing to Ben's aid, let us hasten to my central point. What the so-called controversial minister is achieving has been partly by default. The CBI, as the premier representative organization for industry, has been in some disarray. Its leaders from the outset did not seem to take Mr Benn seriously.

The CBI has not thought anything like deeply enough about the role of the private sector, as Ben's heavy questioning to some of the previous Government's legislation carries its own message. If nobody steps forward to explain the "profit-makers" point of view vigorously, but with well-based argument, then how is the electorate to judge issues?

But for such as Lords Watkinson, Plowden and Robens, who, in their individual ways, have sounded some warnings and tried to redefine industry's responsibilities in a more constructive way, the CBI might have been more defensible against Mr Benn's recent emergence from purdah to make smooth appeals to public opinion.

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Finnish shipbuilders break through to Polar success

Instead of trying to compete in the world shipbuilding markets Finland has made a name for itself by constructing very sophisticated specialized vessels. Although Finland, with its four and a half million population, ranks only about fifteenth in the international shipbuilding league, she has established herself as the builder of special purpose vessels—ro-ro ships, high speed car ferries, specialized tankers for carrying wines and gases, cable layers, ships for deep-sea exploration, and what are described as "accommodation ships" or floating hostels, for construction workers on Russian riverside sites.

But most important of all are the icebreakers which have earned Finnish shipbuilders, and in particular the publicly owned Wärtsilä yard in Helsinki, an international lead in icebreaker construction. Approximately half of all the world's icebreakers are Finnish-built, the remainder coming mainly from Russia, West Germany and North America.

Yesterday saw the launching of Wärtsilä's Helsinki yard of the 36,000 shaft horse power (shp) icebreaker Jermak. This massive high-built triple-screw ship, which has replaceable screw blades, is destined for Russia where it will be used in the Polar regions. It is one of 11 similar vessels to be ordered. Two others will be delivered this year—one for Sweden and one for Finland.

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been put to practical use by Wärtsilä, who has patented the idea, is the so-called "air bubble system". This is a method to reduce friction by blowing out compressed air through holes along the waterline. The air keeps the ice away from the hull as it is pushed down by the bow which cuts through the actual ice. So far this expertise has been applied to three container ships, two tankers and a few of the new icebreakers.

With an eye to the future Wärtsilä's development team is turning its attention to constructing new vessels for transporting raw materials being discovered and exploited in the remote areas of the Arctic. As one expert at Wärtsilä said: "You can't get the minerals out of Polar regions through a pipe like oil. You have got to send a ship in." In addition development work is going on into the construction of ships, barges, platforms and machinery for extracting minerals from beneath the ice and from the deep sea.

Besides icebreakers, Wärtsilä has orders for seven passenger-carrying ferries, of which five are going to Russia. One of the most recent orders is for Finnish-made turbine driven ferries, 1970 has delivered six cruise liners to Norway.

Finland now has nine shipyards owned by four companies—Wärtsilä (2), Valmet (3), Rauma-Repola (4) and Holming (1). Valmet has recently opened its \$US40m yard just outside Helsinki where it has a semi-automated fabrication department engaged on constructing special carriers for Russia.

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973/74 (1972/73) on 570m /its £14.2m (£6.76m) /er share 15.4p (7.6p)

Interim: 1973/74 (1972/73) Capitalization £2.7m Sales £23.7m (£20.7m) Pre-tax profits £1.55m (£1.65m) Dividend gross 2p (2p)

Interim: 1973/74 (1972/73) Capitalization £7.7m Sales £23.7m (£20.7m) Pre-tax profits £1.55m (£1.65m) Dividend gross 2p (2p)

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MARKET REPORTS

Commodities: Copper declines £46.50 a tonne Index slumps 30.7 to new 1974 low

Reuters commodity index slumped 30.7 yesterday to a new low this year of 1,279.7 (1971 equals 100) following renewed eagerness in non-ferrous metals and some other commodities. This reflected the drop in the gold price yesterday morning.

The index, which is based on the prices of 17 primary commodities, is now at its lowest level since November 25 and is about 200 points below this year's high of 1,478.4 reached on February 26. But the index is still some 310 points above its level of a year ago.

In afternoon prices tended to steady following the recovery in the gold price after a United States Treasury spokesman said in Washington that finance ministers agreed in principle that gold could be used as collateral for international borrowing.

An air of uncertainty There was a general air of uncertainty surrounding most markets yesterday. Dealings again thin, as both trade and speculative interest awaited the final shape of gold and currency markets following current Washington monetary talks and the Italian political crisis.

Dealers also felt that a background factor in sentiment was the prediction of the First National City Bank of significant declines in commodity prices this year.

The bank said the surge in prices is attributable to a demand for 50 per cent expansion in world money stock over the past three years. Restrictive monetary policies now being put into effect are seen by the bank as playing a major role in curbing prices.

Copper suffered further sharp falls yesterday but closed above the day's lows on bear covering and higher than expected early New York advice. Nevertheless cash prices fell into deficit for the first time in three months lost £25.

Selling was touched off by the overnight weakness in United States futures and along current deal of irregularity in the pre-market, further losses were seen in ring dealings. Some selling on United States account would be stop-loss orders were reported with a further narrowing in the backwardation to about £30 and the fall in gold contributing to the trend.

Some West German demand induced by the lower levels was reported but generally speaking the physical market was closed quiet. Afternoon cash was flat, £105.50 a tonne, with a bid for £105.50. The market was closed quiet. Afternoon cash was flat, £105.50 a tonne, with a bid for £105.50.

Foreign Exchange Gold dominates the dollar The dollar rose during the European currency session yesterday. But trading later was overshadowed by developments on the gold market with the United States Treasury reporting that the leading finance ministers meeting in Washington had agreed in principle that gold could be used as

collateral for international borrowing. The accord contributed towards some steadiness around the Italian lira which closed little moved at £53.00 against the dollar, compared with £52.50-£53.00 overnight. The scale of Italian central bank support for the currency apparently slackened with Milan dealers describing it as "light".

The agreement, mobilising gold reserves for collateral usage would primarily help Italy, which faces a dwindling monetary reserves and worsening balance of payments. In London, gold eased \$1.25 to \$155.50 after being fixed in the morning at \$153.50.

The dollar's general rally, meanwhile, was associated partly with a rapid climb in Eurodollar inter-

bank rates. Dividing expectations among the United States financial community that domestic rates have yet peaked, and demand for funds from Japanese and Italian banks in the dollar zone, the Eurodollar rate structure higher.

The United States unit closed at 2,520.50 against the mark, compared with 2,507.50 overnight, while gaining to 3,000.50 against the Swiss franc (overnight 2,940.50) and gulder at 2,645.65 (2,620.50).

Sterling was unchanged against the dollar, at \$2.3950. Its effective rate improved from 17.01 to 16.80 per cent.

Nervous day for discount houses Discount houses again found daily rate credit in plentiful supply and required no assistance from the authorities. Factors working in favour of the market included surplus balances carried forward from Tuesday, an excess of Government distribution over revenue transfers to the Exchequer, a fall in the note circulation, and building society monies.

Against this were a net market take-up of Treasury bills, local authority bills and local authority bonds maturing in the hands of the Bank of England, and settlement of the small official sales of gilt-edged made on Tuesday.

Calling "was" and rates for secured loans that had been in the region of 11 or 10 per cent for much of the day, finally eased to 9 1/2 per cent (one house was reported to have closed at 5 per cent). There was a little interest shown again in paper-Treasury bills, "eighths" and others.

Dealers said that the market was rather nervous, fearing that rates would come down too fast, leaving the market rather vulnerable if the banks continue to delay cuts in base rates. Certainly, period rates in other corners of the money market took a slight upturn yesterday.

Money Market Rates Bank of England's Minimum Reserve Rate 12 1/2% Last changed 1974. Clearing Bank's Rate 12 1/2% Overdrafts 12 1/2% Treasury Bills (12 months) 9 1/2% (6 months) 9 1/2% (3 months) 9 1/2% (1 month) 9 1/2%

Local Authority Rates 12 months 12 1/2% 6 months 12 1/2% 3 months 12 1/2% 1 month 12 1/2%

Inter-bank Market 1 week 11 1/2% 2 weeks 11 1/2% 1 month 11 1/2% 3 months 11 1/2% 6 months 11 1/2% 12 months 11 1/2%

First Class Finance Rates (12 months) 12 1/2% (6 months) 12 1/2% (3 months) 12 1/2% (1 month) 12 1/2%

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Table listing various financial units, insurance policies, and offshore funds with columns for name, type, and value.

Strong growth and Peak at Highams

The board of Highams was confident at half time that its improvement in profits would be maintained, and this is justified by the second-half rise from £320,000 to £435,000 in spite of the three-day week. This gives a new record total of £74,000 before tax, against £320,000.

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Spot Position of Sterling

Table showing spot rates for various currencies including New York, London, Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Zurich, Madrid, Paris, Stockholm, and Vienna.

The Times Share Indices

Table showing share indices for the Times, Industrial, and All-Share, with columns for index value and percentage change.

Bank Base Rates

Table listing bank base rates for Barclays Bank, FNFC, Hill Samuel, C. Hoare & Co., Lloyds Bank, Midland Bank, Nat Westminster, Shetley Trust, 20th Cent Bank, G. T. Whyte, and Williams & Glyn's.

Advertisement for JAPAN INTERNATIONAL BANK LIMITED, featuring a circular logo and text about medium and long term Euro-Currency finance, underwriting of Euro-Bond and Euro-Equity Issues, and recent issues.

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London and Regional Market Prices

Properties weak

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, June 10 Dealings End, June 21 Contango Day, June 24 Settlement Day, July 2 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

Herring Daw Chartered Surveyors 28/28 Sackville Street London W1X 2EL Telephone 01-734 8155 City of London-Paris-Sydney-Melbourne

Chartered Surveyors Planning Consultants rivers DMS DRIVERS SONAS

Main market data table with columns for Stock, Price, Change, Div, and various categories including FUNDS, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL, HEALTH AND FOREIGN, AUTHORITIES, STOCKS, DISCOUNTS, AND DISTILLERIES, FINANCIAL TRUSTS, SHIPPING, MINES, INSURANCE, INVESTMENT TRUSTS, OIL, PROPERTY, RUBBER, MISCELLANEOUS, and REGIONALS.

Adjusted for tax changes... Price of share... Dividend... etc.

WOMEN'S APPOINTMENTS GENERAL

Administrative Flair?

A chance to move into company secretarial work

Glaxo Holdings Limited is the parent company of the multi-million International Glaxo Group...

CONFERENCE ASSISTANT

22 or over, with good shorthand-typing (audio would be acceptable) to work in busy office organising conferences, meetings, visits and social events for professional Institution in Westminster.

Administrative Officer

to the INSTITUTE OF BREWING

This professional organization requires an experienced administrator who, in addition to overall control of records of 3,000 members worldwide, will be responsible for the arrangement of meetings and delivery of reports.

PERSONNEL OFFICER

CROYDON THE COMPANY. Employing 100 people, mostly female, in the Electronics Field...

SENIOR STAFF SELECTION

Apply to: Miss Brooks, Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, London SW1P 3AA.

SUPER COOK

An enthusiastic writer is required immediately for this exciting cookery part-time work.

THE BELL INN

Are you pretty and intelligent, good and capable, good with people, methodical and not too temperamental?

NO SHORTHAND

Young Manager of modern W.I. Company seeks a friendly, well-trained, 20+ as Secretary/P.A.

CITY GIRL

We are a small, friendly and well-financed organization of a large international City office and need a conventional girl Friday...

ENTHUSIASTIC GIRL

with drive and initiative, over 25, for the Beta Beta Beta Association. No experience needed but organizing ability essential.

STUDENT GIRLS

with or without previous experience necessary. No previous experience necessary.

WELL-ORGANISED RESPONSIBLE GIRL

with a good head and sense of humor, for a busy office in the City.

RECEPTIONIST/TELEPHONIST

18 or over, with good shorthand and typing skills, for a busy office in the City.

ASSISTANT PERSONNEL MANAGER

Up to £3,000 Central London an expanding international organization employing 400 staff is seeking a woman to undertake all personnel functions up to management level.

ASSISTANT PERSONNEL MANAGER

Up to £3,000 Central London an expanding international organization employing 400 staff is seeking a woman to undertake all personnel functions up to management level.

WOMEN'S APPOINTMENTS GENERAL

GRANADA TV RENTAL

are looking for a REGIONAL TRAINING OFFICER

We are offering up to £1,650 plus car. The job will involve: Staff Recruitment/Personnel, In-Showroom Training, Running of Training Courses, Identifying Training Requirements, Monitoring Training.

WOMEN IN MANAGEMENT

Our philosophy is simple: we are recruitment consultants and apply the same high standards of professionalism to the recruitment of women as we do to men.

ORMOND MANAGEMENT SELECTION LTD.

22 Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3JH. Tel: 01-242 9172 and 01-588 6700

THE ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION SCHOOL

BEDFORD SQUARE W.C.1 would like applications from intelligent, independent minded, enthusiastic Secretaries with administrative or relevant experience.

TELEPHONIST

Dial the world and let your voice earn you £1,630 p.a. and 4 weeks annual holiday. 21 or over, G.P.O. trained preferred.

MARSHALL CAVENDISH LTD.

58 Old Compton Street, London W1V 5PA

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

The Secretary of a busy professional organization seeks an efficient, energetic, and well-organized Assistant Secretary.

WEST END SOLICITORS

are looking for someone with administrative ability to undertake a range of clerical and secretarial duties.

P.R. M.D. of West End P.R. Agency

needs bright, organized Secretary. Two previous girls now executives. No learners or playgirls. Ring 01-955 8164.

ASSISTANT

with good typing ability to get involved in international trading in the City. If you're 20+ you can start on £2,000 p.a.

Earn Between £50 and £80 p.w.

Our sales ladies earn up to average between £50 and £80 p.w. on commission. Guaranteed minimum £50 p.w. No experience necessary. F.C.23 training given.

EXPERIENCED TEACHER OF Commercial Subjects

with a minimum of 5 years' experience in teaching Commercial Subjects (including Accounting and Book-keeping) at the level of the City School of Commerce.

RECCI BURNS requires experienced receptionist for his sales at 93 George Street, W.1.

TOP WEST END Fashion House

needs responsible person with show room experience and a minimum of 2 years' experience in retailing. Please Mr. Hillier at 01-499 8182.

RECEPTIONIST/GIRL FRIDAY

for small, international organization in the City. Salary £1,500-1,700 p.a. Ideal A-1 job.

YOUR COLLEAGUE THE FIGHTER PILOT

With a quick mind and the will to work in a team, you could make a Fighter Pilot. One trained, you'd be a Fighter Pilot. One untrained, you'd be a Fighter Pilot.

TEMPORARY NANNY

required for a busy household in the City. Salary £100 p.w. No experience necessary. F.C.23 training given.

WOMEN'S APPOINTMENTS GENERAL

GRADUATE

FOR MARKETING INTELLIGENCE IN THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

The Company, part of a major British Group, is new and growing rapidly. The vacancy has arisen due to the promotion of the present job holder.

ACCOUNTANCY ASSISTANT

c. £1,800 Croydon A lady of 22 or more is required at the company's Croydon Office to assist with aspects of financial control and accounts.

ROHM and HANSON (UK) Limited

2 Mason's Avenue, Croydon CR9 3NF. Tel: 01-886 8844

PART-TIME WORK

A mature person is required for part-time work organising and maintaining mailing lists. A considerable amount of typing is involved.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

requires Secretary. Good shorthand/typing speeds for varied and interesting work in luxury offices. Age 18-22. Salary according to experience. Excellent working conditions.

FREE TO TRAVEL IMMEDIATELY

Young girls 20-25 required for exciting job-travel over Europe and Middle East, expenses paid.

BOOK-KEEPER

required by Time-Life International Limited. Excellent financial accounts, able to type, interested in varied work in modern office. Good salary. Ring 01-262 2818.

RECEPTIONIST/TELEPHONIST

Enjoy the busy, professional atmosphere with friendly team of secretaries in West Kensington. £1,500 negotiable. Please ring 01-875 5332, but do not speak.

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WOMEN'S APPOINTMENTS GENERAL

SECRETARY/PERSONAL ASSISTANT

To The Director of Personnel

We are looking for a really first-class Secretary/Personal Assistant to assist the Director of Personnel of a leading international pharmaceutical company.

SECRETARY/PERSONNEL ASSISTANT

The Managing Director of one of London's leading Advertising Agencies requires a Secretary with impeccable skills. The position carries particular emphasis on personnel work.

SECRETARY

to director of creative London advertising agency. Must be of good education and highly experienced in secretarial/P.A. position. Age 25/35. Salary around £2,250, with excellent holiday and possibly above £2,500.

SECRETARY

TO EUROPEAN SALES MANAGER The European Sales Manager of Reuters Economic Services requires a fully experienced secretary. The person appointed will have accurate shorthand and typing skills, be self-motivated and capable of working on her own initiative.

SECRETARY

INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY Requires Secretary to work for two Directors in luxury West End offices: friendly people, 9.30 to 5.30. IBM typewriter; holidays honoured.

SECRETARY/P.A.

required by General Manager of weekly international magazine which is part of a well-known publishing group in the City. Applicants should preferably be aged between 25 to 40 years and have good shorthand/typing skills. Salary in the region of £1,500 p.a. + a seasonal bonus (negotiable this year).

PA/SECRETARY

required for small European subsidiary of U.S. International Chemicals Co. who has excellent career London prospects. G.H. Friday to work in interesting job, pleasant atmosphere, salary commensurate with experience. Good working conditions. Salary £2,000.

DRINK TO A BETTER JOB

A rare opportunity for two Secretaries with good shorthand and typing skills to enter the fascinating world of banking. Salary £1,800 p.a. + a seasonal bonus. Good working conditions. Please apply to Elizabeth Colquhoun, 242 Strand, W.C.2.

CORDON BLEU

COOKERY SCHOOL seek a secretary. Cookery school, a help but not a hindrance. Like shorthand. Lunch provided. Telephone 01-935 1983, 114 MARLYBONE AVENUE, LONDON, W.1

AUDIO TYPIST

Required by Accounts, new Edgeware station. Must be experienced, fast and accurate on a dictating machine. No limit to salary for the right applicant. Hours 9.30 to 5.30. Please ring Mrs. Silver or Mr. Lovell on 723 1865.

MATURE AUDIO TYPIST

is required by a small but very friendly firm. Must be able to type on a typewriter. Good salary. £1,500-1,800 p.a. For more details, ring Mrs. BUREAU, 407 Strand, W.C.2 01-930 3153.

TV MAGAZINE EDITOR needs young P.A./Sec.

with intelligence and initiative to assist in the running of a television magazine. Salary £1,800 p.a. + a seasonal bonus. Good working conditions. Please ring Mrs. BUREAU, 407 Strand, W.C.2 01-930 3153.

SALESWOMAN & WELLS THEOLOGICAL COLL.

WELLS THEOLOGICAL COLL. requires a Saleswoman for the sale of books and stationery. Salary £1,800 p.a. + a seasonal bonus. Good working conditions. Please ring Mrs. BUREAU, 407 Strand, W.C.2 01-930 3153.

DENTAL NURSES

required for private practice, close to Stone Square. Salary £1,800 p.a. + a seasonal bonus. Good working conditions. Please ring Mrs. BUREAU, 407 Strand, W.C.2 01-930 3153.

TELEVISION PRODUCER

requires a Secretary with good shorthand and typing skills. Salary £1,800 p.a. + a seasonal bonus. Good working conditions. Please ring Mrs. BUREAU, 407 Strand, W.C.2 01-930 3153.

SECRETARIAL

WHY NOT MEET THE STARS and work at the M.D. of the most exciting and profitable firm in the City. Salary £2,000-3,000 p.a. + a seasonal bonus. Good working conditions. Please ring Mrs. BUREAU, 407 Strand, W.C.2 01-930 3153.

CONSERVATIVE M.P.

requires a Secretary with good shorthand and typing skills. Salary £1,800 p.a. + a seasonal bonus. Good working conditions. Please ring Mrs. BUREAU, 407 Strand, W.C.2 01-930 3153.

WELL EDUCATED Young "A" level woman

with a good education and highly experienced in secretarial/P.A. position. Age 25/35. Salary around £2,250, with excellent holiday and possibly above £2,500.

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TELEVISION PRODUCER

WOMEN'S APPOINTMENTS SECRETARIAL

Spanish/German Speaking SECRETARY/REIGN CORRESPONDENT

link very near Liverpool Street/Moorgate Streets Secretary possessing good shorthand/typing skills fluent Spanish and German, who is also prepared to work on open-plan offices, electric typewriter, three days per annum and a subsidised mortgage scheme. a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Excellent salary paid, plus L.V. ne Maureen Peachey, 588 4111, for interview

WOMEN'S APPOINTMENTS SECRETARIAL

THE CARIBBEAN THE FAR EAST THE MIDDLE EAST AFRICA

A Partner in a firm of Consultants with work in the above areas requires a Secretary to cover the Caribbean, Far East, Middle East and Africa. The work is varied and interesting and offers a great deal of responsibility. Please apply to: Mrs. M. J. Jones, 10, St. James's Park, London SW1A 1BS. Salary from £2,000 plus L.V. plus a house scheme, 4 weeks holiday. Refused age 25 plus. Miss Sue Thomas 01-739 3647

WOMEN'S APPOINTMENTS SECRETARIAL

DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY BELGRAVIA

An excellent opportunity for permanent employment as Secretary to a Director of an established private company which is the recognized leader in an important part of the civil engineering industry. Pleasant, competent, reliability and loyalty are essential qualifications and will be encouraged by excellent conditions of employment in newly modernized and very comfortable offices near Victoria Station. Age is not important but the position is most likely to appeal to those over 30 years old seeking a settled career in a really interesting job. Holiday arrangements will be made. For further details please telephone Mrs. May at 01-730 0035.

WOMEN'S APPOINTMENTS SECRETARIAL

AMERICAN OIL COMPANY

Operating from brand new luxury Knightsbridge office requires

SENIOR SECRETARY

Our Finance Director requires a PA who will ensure the smooth running of both his office and department. Salary will be in the range of £2,400 plus L.V.

TOP RECEPTIONIST

In addition to looking after visitors candidates should be fully conversant with shorthand and typing in addition to usual secretarial skills. This position will be both demanding and interesting with a salary in the range of £2,200 plus L.V.

Applicants should apply in writing with CV to Box 0120 D, The Times, stating which position they are applying for.

WOMEN'S APPOINTMENTS SECRETARIAL

LONDON'S MOST EXCLUSIVE JEWELLERY SALON needs Sales Staff to match

When our jewellery salon opens in Knightsbridge in September, we need Sales Staff capable of handling our exclusive clientele. We don't mind whether they're male or female—providing they have the manner and bearing in keeping with our standards.

Experience isn't essential. Appearance and attitude is. And for the right people we're prepared to pay the right money.

So if you think you're what we're looking for, call Cwendoline Farrow, GRAFF DIAMONDS LTD., 63 Hatton Garden, London, E.C.1. Tel. 01-404 5816.

YOUNG PARTNERS SECRETARY

UP TO £2,050 + BONUS

Young firm of Chartered Accountants close to one of our busiest people is a young, rather than a harassed partner. He needs an experienced secretary in her mid-20s to help, not just organizing the office and holding the fort while he is out, but also to be a useful Christmas present. Salary up to £2,050 plus L.V. and a useful Christmas present. £11 Lewis on 486 5885.

Imperial College of Science and Technology

SECRETARY

Required for Professor of Computer Science. The position involves a wide range of administrative work, including correspondence, typing, and general office duties. The successful candidate will be a young woman with a degree in a relevant subject and a minimum of two years' experience in a similar position. Salary £2,000 p.a. plus L.V. and a house allowance. For further information please telephone Denise O'Donoghue on 01-437 0765, after 9.30 a.m.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT FOR AN EXCITING NEW VENTURE

A high degree of job satisfaction is offered in this challenging opportunity to assist the General Manager of a voluntary association to launch a new scheme and to participate in establishing a professional department. Your employer will be abroad at times and so your personality and flair for getting on with people will enable you to represent him in his absence. You will also need initiative and a flexible responsibility and these skills will have been gained at top management level during at least 5 years' managerial experience. The office is near Piccadilly and the salary is £2,000 plus, according to experience and ability.

For further information please telephone Denise O'Donoghue on 01-437 0765, after 9.30 a.m.

PARTNER'S SECRETARY

An experienced secretary with good shorthand and typing speeds required to work for a busy Partner in a large firm of Chartered Accountants. Previous experience at a senior level essential. Conditions of employment include three weeks' holiday rising to four weeks, luncheon vouchers, contributory superannuation scheme and the salary will be commensurate with the importance of this post.

Please apply by telephone or writing to L. W. Totton, Binder Hamlyn Singleton Fabian, 8 St. Bride Street, London EC4A 4DA. Telephone 01-353 3020.

SMALL INTERNATIONAL TEXTILE AGENCY

seeks

PRIVATE SECRETARY/PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

Ideal person: no ties; prepared to travel on the Continent for not more than one week at a time; fluent in French and good knowledge of Italian and continental languages helpful. Flexibility and commercial background essential.

Small, friendly office in West End. Salary by arrangement in reason of £3,000.

Write Box 0064 D, The Times

SECRETARY for MIDDLE EAST

month tax free plus free accommodation and generous home leave are paid. Interviewing end of June/July. Apply in writing.

Box 0357 D, The Times

The City University GRADUATE BUSINESS CENTER

COMPETENT AUDIO-TYPIST

Secretary to a small group of lecturers.

Good working conditions with student contact. Salary on scale £1,800 to £2,200 p.a. plus L.V. and a house allowance. 4 weeks annual holiday, plus extra days at Christmas and Easter. Use of colour, facilities—gymnasium, sports centre, etc.

Please telephone Professor W. S. Elliott, on 01-582 5111, Ext. 1604.

LIVELY SECRETARY

required to work for architect and his team—nice people, pleasant offices and good conditions in WC2.

Preferred age 24-28. Must have good shorthand but be willing to do some audio and copy typing. IBM Executive typewriter. Hours, 9-5. Salary about £1,900, plus L.V.

For further details phone Ann Dietrich on 839 4488

PUBLISHING

DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY

Highly efficient Secretary/PA with good shorthand and typing speeds, capable of working on her own and interested in books, required to work for young Sales Director of fast expanding international publishing company of Holland Park. Good working conditions in small friendly and informal office. Knowledge of German an asset. Very attractive salary negotiable, plus bonus.

Ring Claire Stratton, 748 1389, office hours.

SECRETARY/P.A.

for the Sales Director of a £30 million Retail Furnishing Company. Accurate shorthand/typing and the ability to cope with varied and interesting work in her own private office without supervision are the essential qualifications required. Hours 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Excellent free lunch is provided. Salary around £2,000 according to age and experience. Please apply to The Personnel Manager, Mr. L. C. Koppen, Hardy & Co. (Furnishers) Ltd., 30, Portland Place, W1N 4AQ. Telephone 01-637 0861.

Secretary for Director

ial secretary is required by the Personnel large manufacturing company. Good shorthand work with involvement in many projects company policies relating to people at work, or usual administrative aspects of a secretary's work. Good career and personal details, quoting 3931 on the envelope, to:

Forster-Turpin & Benson, Recruitment Division, St. Alphege House, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5DP.

Secretary for Head of Development

Chief-of-the-office, interesting job at the Spastic Society's Head Office near Regent's Park.

The Department is concerned with the development of the Society's plans to set up Spastic Centres. Opportunities to spend an hour or more of your time in the office. 4 weeks holiday, 12 days' leave. Salary £2,000 p.a.

Please apply with details of age, experience and present salary to: The Personnel Office, THE SPASTIC SOCIETY, 12, Park Circus, WIN 4AQ 01-636 5200

SENIOR SECRETARY

Personable, experienced secretary required to work for M.D. and one other in our Chemicals Co., Magnesium Electron Ltd. Good speeds, excellent English essential. Own office, electric typewriter, flexible hours, contributory pension scheme, 4 weeks holiday in year—this year's expected. Salary negotiable, plus 7.5% L.V.

Please write full details of age, experience and salary expected to Miss Copeland, THE BRITISH ALUMINIUM CO. LTD., Norfolk House, St. James's Square, SW1 (near Piccadilly) or telephone 639 8888

STOP PRESS . . .

Director of very stylish finance house needs smart P.A./Sec. who is completely self-motivated, can organize, plan and keep the wheels in motion while he's away. Great opportunity to work in a dynamic and exciting environment and to move into the financial world.

Compensating salary £2,100 plus own luxurious office and perks.

Phone: Christine Wason M. & J. PERSONNEL 636 4737

ALANGATE AGENCY

SECRETARY TO CHAIRMAN of famous Tea Company, E.C.1. A responsible position with excellent prospects for the right person. £2,300 p.a.

SECRETARY TO CHAIRMAN of Victoria Property Co. If you are prepared to take on more than just a secretarial responsibility your salary will be £2,000-2,200 p.a.

SECRETARY TO VICE-CHAIRMAN/MANAGING DIRECTOR of Advertising Agency, E.C.4. Smart mature lady 25+ for this excellent post. £3,100

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oring
pulsion
of
belts

Deaths and 10,000 serious injuries could be avoided each year if belts already fitted were fully used. Official campaigns in selected areas have increased seat belt wearing to some extent, but the figure achieved anywhere is only 22 per cent. 'Enthusiasm has been fairly high; now there is to be compulsion.

Britain will not be alone. Seat-belt wearing is already compulsory in Australia and New Zealand and road casualties have fallen significantly as a result. France and Czechoslovakia have (illegally) compulsion orders built up areas; legislation is being considered in Austria, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and the Netherlands.

In Britain, compulsion is supported by the motor industry, the medical profession, the motor insurers, the Automobile Association, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, and the Institute of Advanced Motorists. Public opinion seems to be coming round as well: according to a survey carried out last year for the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, two thirds of car drivers agreed wholly with compulsion and a further 13 per cent agreed partly.

But voices continue to be raised in opposition. The Royal Automobile Club argues that the wearing of belts should be left to persuasion and individual choice; and the Magistrates' Association and some police associations fear that a law would be difficult to enforce. Several letters written to this newspaper have also expressed their hostility.

A common argument is: "If I want to be killed myself by not wearing a belt, I should be free to do so." But this "freedom" must be weighed against the cost to the community, not to mention the victim's immediate family. According to the latest Government figures, published this week, road accidents cost the community at least £550 million a year: the figure takes into account lost output, medical, funeral and ambulance costs, damage to vehicles and property and suffering and grief.

Some people are prepared to wear belts on the motorway but not on a two-mile trip to the shops. But nearly half the casualties among car occupants take place in built-up areas and it is not unknown for death to result from a collision at 12 mph. More than half of all accidents involving a fatality occur within 10 miles of home.

There must be sympathy with an already overburdened police force faced with yet more laws to administer; but the experience of Australia and New Zealand suggests that enforcement may not be such a problem, and British people are generally fairly law-abiding. I have sympathy, too, with some old or disabled people who may find it physically impossible to wear belts; but the Government has promised to look sympathetically at such cases and the necessary exemptions will be made.

test: Hillman Avenger GLS automatic

11 per cent of new cars sold with automatic and for the smaller figure is more like extra cost, at least £100, a deterrent to many. The fact that automatic transmission is fitted to large cars, a second objection, Borgward developed the Type 45, an em designed specially for one and two litres capacity and as so often happens, a competitor firm was called by car manufacturer Chrysler UK eventually and now offers the optional extra on its venger range. I tried the top Avenger, the GLS, impressive.

Automatic has announced that it will introduce legislation to use of seat belts by the car. Since the advantages of belts were conclusively proved ago, this is hardly news; but there are still opposed to compulsion, 18 months might profit to talk them round.

ave been fitted to all new cars, 1965, but fewer than 10 per cent of drivers and front-seat passengers wear them regularly. It is the Government that 1,000

0 to 60 mph acceleration in just over 12 seconds and a top speed of about 95 mph. The car feels quick and has ample power, augmented if necessary by the kickdown for overtaking.

Handling is good, the car stays firm on the road with little pitch or roll, and though the ride is a little choppy at low speeds, it becomes smoother and more comfortable. The steering is light and precise, and the car has a good turning circle. Wind and engine noise does start to become intrusive above 60 mph. I obtained an average fuel consumption on four-star petrol of 25 miles to the gallon.

Accommodation is about adequate for four people and there is a useful boot. The instruments are clearly sized and easy to read and I like the drum-shaped switches on either side of the steering wheel which work the lights and screen wipers. The GLS is equipped with a vinyl roof, sports road wheels, alloy wheels, a leather-upholstered nylon upholstery. It costs £1,553.

Avenger GLS a sporting machine things a bit, but active, lively and well-competitively priced. For the 1974, a big new box, "Money-Saving Motor", could hardly have appeared at a better time. The tide may be a

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Though it was planned long before the energy crisis and soaring petrol prices forced us to think hard about increases. For the 1974, a big new box, "Money-Saving Motor", could hardly have appeared at a better time. The tide may be a

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With an estimated population of some 69 million, (the results of last autumn's national census are still awaited), Nigeria is by far the most populous country in Africa. While in terms of income per head the country remains poorer than many of its African neighbours there is little doubt that Nigeria possesses the means — huge mineral resources, a large and diversified agricultural industry, and an increasingly wide manufacturing industry base — to provide the motive power for steady and accelerating growth.

Nigeria's gross domestic product advanced last year at a rate of about 7 per cent, and although this was below the 9.6 per cent growth recorded the previous year it compared favourably with pre-1970 levels. The country's economic growth has in recent years been fuelled by the revenue from her oil exports and this will continue for some time.

The petroleum sector last year accounted for 83 per cent of Nigeria's exports which, including re-exports, amounted to N2,226.6m, compared with N1,432.2m the previous year, representing a rise of more than 55 per cent. Oil production in Nigeria last year amounted to some 750 million barrels, which pushed the country into seventh place among world oil producers.

In the current year, Nigeria, which supplies Britain with about 12 per cent of its requirements, can expect a revenue from petroleum to show a sharp rise. The change earnings from this sector rose to N31.5m compared with the previous year. When the non-oil sector recorded a 30 per cent decline last November, and at the beginning of this year raised again to \$14.69 billion, the higher price, and additional inflow of last year — the main items resulting from the increased state held trials, cars, transport equipment, food, durable consumer goods and capital



The marina and customs sheds at Lagos — gateway to Africa's most populous country and the site of next year's second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture.

The Government acknowledges that the objectives of the third plan are likely to be faced with difficulties through shortages of administrative experience and technical skills. Considerable attention will be focused on export industries and what government planners refer to as "non-traditional export industries".

"A new attitude and approach to export industries is necessary in Nigeria", the planners say. "This country is blessed with a potentially large domestic market, a leading role within her cluster of development experience, a substantial bargaining leverage within the world community and a generous endowment with human and non-human resources—including mineral oil, which is held at a premium in the world market. The call for a new attitude also finds justification from a dynamic interpretation of comparative advantage. This interpretation enables a country to choose an area or a few areas in which its resources and efforts are concentrated in order to make a success of the ventures."

The planners argue that Nigeria should make a major effort in competing with the advanced industrial nations in non-traditional industries such as petrochemicals, plastics, cooling systems (including air conditioners, fans, refrigeration equipment and compressors), simple machinery and equipment, particularly small-scale agricultural machinery, tools, pumps, automobile parts and similar items. Under the third plan major projects will be geared both to the home market and also to developing new export markets—beyond the Dabomey, Niger, Cameroun, Chad, Upper Volta axis—since experience has shown that projects conceived with only the Nigerian market in view have failed to satisfy even this market.

The guidelines foresee the possibility of changing from traditional exports—mainly agricultural and semi-processed agricultural products—to non-traditional exports. These include rubber-based exports, palm produce based exports such as feeds and proteins from palm kernels, cocoa cake and butter.

In addition, the Federal Government has said that it will intensify the search for additional mineral resources within Nigeria. Geophysical surveys covering about half the country are scheduled to be completed within the current financial year, and the results of these surveys could well present Nigeria with additional sources of valuable foreign earnings and complement the income from oil.

For the immediate future the possibility of a return to civilian rule is the main issue. General Gowon indicated in 1970 that he would restore civilian rule by 1976 and would allow political parties to emerge once more. Whether this will happen remains to be seen. Political manoeuvring is already taking place, some of the former politicians are busy in the background, and there are many who would like to see General Gowon installed as president on a return to civilian rule, with the substantial army remaining in the background as a check on the politicians.

On the other hand there are those who consider that the possibility of a return to Niger may have served to remind the military that it is inadvisable to outstay their welcome—and longevity is not a characteristic of African administrations.

Political stability is crucial if Nigeria's economic aspirations are to be achieved and if it wishes to continue to set the pace in Africa's relations with the rest of the world and to attract the foreign investment that is still needed, despite the oil boom.

equipment. The increase in import bills was more than offset by the rise in export earnings, so that the country last year managed to effect a substantial increase in the visible trade balance from N441.1m in 1972 to N992.6m last year. Small wonder that grade missions are flocking to Nigeria.

Agriculture's contribution in recent years has fallen markedly—although the industry accounts for 70 per cent of employment—as a result of the effects of drought in the northern states on the southern fringes of the Sahara. Last year the groundnut crop realized an estimated 600,000 tons, compared with 785,000 tons the previous year.

The cocoa crop fell from 254,000 tons to an estimated 245,000 tons and although there was a slight improvement in the cotton crop, the textile industry faces a shortage which almost certainly will mean mill closures. The Federal Government has initiated measures to reform the marketing boards system for agricultural commodities and plans, with the state governments, to establish modern dairy and food processing industries throughout Nigeria.

In his budget speech in April, General Gowon announced higher producer prices for a variety of agricultural products in an attempt to persuade farmers to plant more in future seasons. Although petroleum provides such a formidable impetus to economic growth at present, it is recognized that agriculture will remain basic to the Nigerian economy and its development in the foreseeable future.

Meanwhile, apart from revenue from oil is being used in the development of a more diversified industrial base. Under the second development plan, which has been extended for one year to next April, nearly N3,200m will be spent on reconstruction and development, particularly on intermediate industries and an increase in the output of domestic industry.

Under the third national

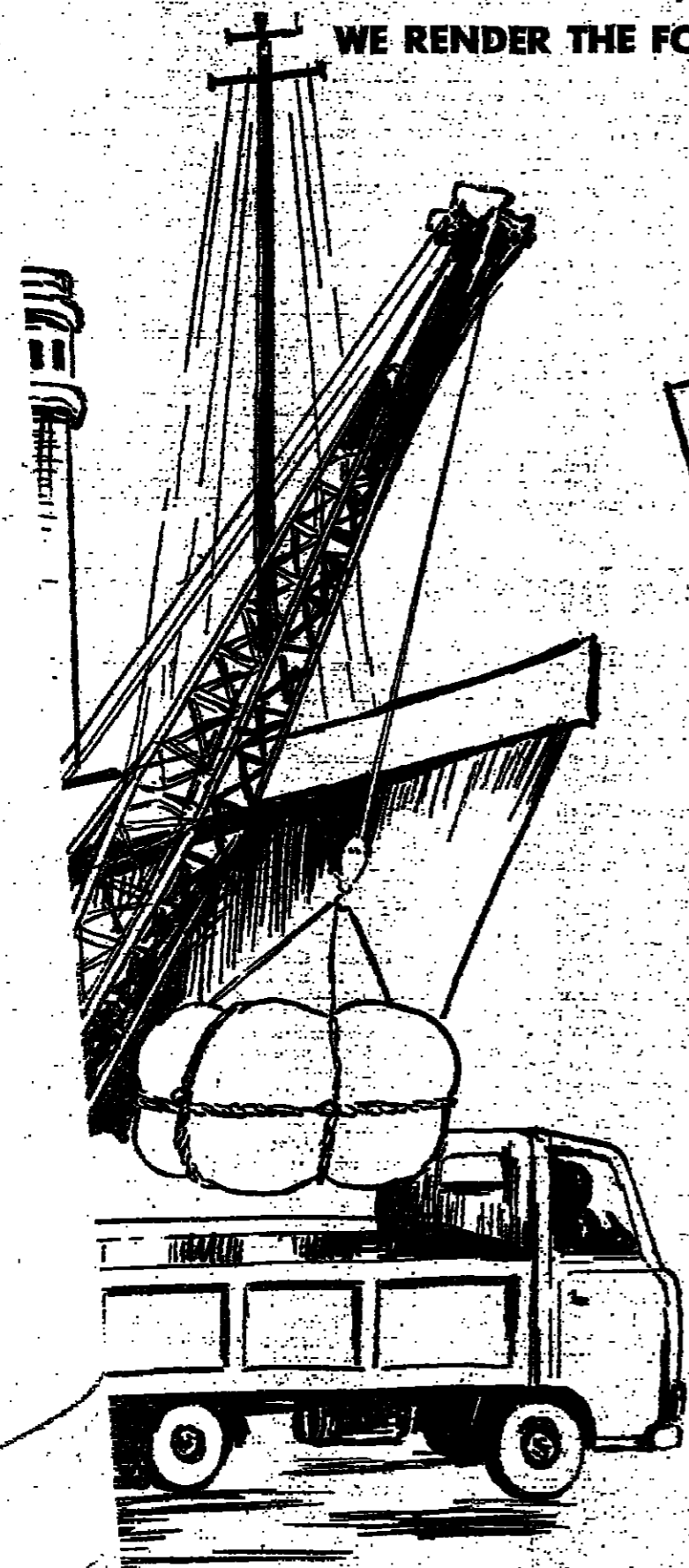
plan, the guidelines for which were issued before the upheavals in the international oil industry and the huge increase in oil prices, Nigeria will seek to achieve a compound annual growth rate in gross domestic product of 9.8 per cent over the 1975-80 period. Gross domestic product, according to the guidelines, is projected to rise from N8,152m in 1975 to N11,957m by the end of the five-year period, with the main emphasis of the programme being placed on agriculture, industry, transport and education. If gdp is valued at constant (1962-63) factor costs, the average rate of growth during the five-year period is likely to be about 7.8 per cent.

This is the sixth in a series of Special Reports on export corridors, which will include:

- Brazil June 20
- Delaware Valley, US June 27
- United Kingdom July 4
- Venezuela July 11
- India July 25

The reports will be republished as a booklet, which will be available from John Oliver, Marketing Executive, The Times.

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Massive reserves of natural gas are a virtually untapped source of revenue

reserves of natural gas has been estimated at 241,000 million cu ft. While reserves rose from 170 million cu ft in 1965 to 40,000,000 million cu ft at the beginning of 1972. In view of the number of oil fields discovered since then, this total is now considered to be greater. At that time, therefore, Nigeria accounted for about 2.4 per cent of world reserves of potentially recoverable natural gas. This compares with 1.7 per cent for Canada and 0.3 per cent for Algeria and some 17.3 per cent for Iran.

The extent of the wastage of Nigerian natural gas can be gauged from a simple rule of thumb calculation based on a 1,000 cu ft of gas and against the oil price of a quadrupling. On the basis of a present daily Nigerian production of 2,300,000 barrels of oil some 2,300 million cu ft of gas is being flared off daily. Industries in Lagos calculate that some 98 per cent of gas reserves are flared off with only a minute 2 per cent being used either by the oil companies in their oil

exploration and production activities or through its sale to one of three customers: the Port Harcourt area. More specifically, last October, but of a gas production of 2,223 million cu ft a day, only about 13 million cu ft was sold. During the same month Shell BP, the major oil producing company operating in Nigeria, was estimated to have had a daily production of some 834 million cu ft while Gulf Oil, the second largest oil producer, had an estimated gas production level of some 363 million cu ft.

Thus with more than 2,200 million cu ft of gas being flared off daily in Nigeria it is a little surprising that the Government has not acted rather more quickly in harnessing and using such a valuable energy resource, particularly since waste on this scale is equivalent to about a third of the country's daily energy production.

Within Nigeria natural gas piped from gas fields near by is used to supply the power stations at Afam and Ughelli while some towns are able to use it as a fuel source. Gas is also used by the Michelin factory and the glass industry at Port Harcourt from supplies piped from the large Apapa field.

Somewhat ironically with all the gas lying beneath the surface, Nigeria has to import a substantial volume of liquid gas to meet the sharp rise in demand for gas for cooking and domestic purposes. This is not to say that the Government and the oil companies have been oblivious to the potential for Nigerian natural gas which is principally located in the Rivers and Mid-Western States. Over the past four or five years a large number of plans have been advanced for the establishment of gas collection, liquefaction and export terminals and discussions have taken place on most of them. The indications are now that a decision on one or more plants will be forthcoming from the Federal Government before the end of the summer, based on a short list of four from the original dozen or so proposed projects.

In his April budget speech General Gowon said: "To increase our export earnings from petroleum products, further consideration will be given to the various proposals already received on the construction of export-oriented refineries. In addition, studies which are being conducted into the gathering, liquefaction and export of gas as well as its conversion

into petrochemicals have certainly reached an advanced stage, and during the coming year technical partners for joint ventures with the Federal Government will be selected to ensure an early take off of the projects."

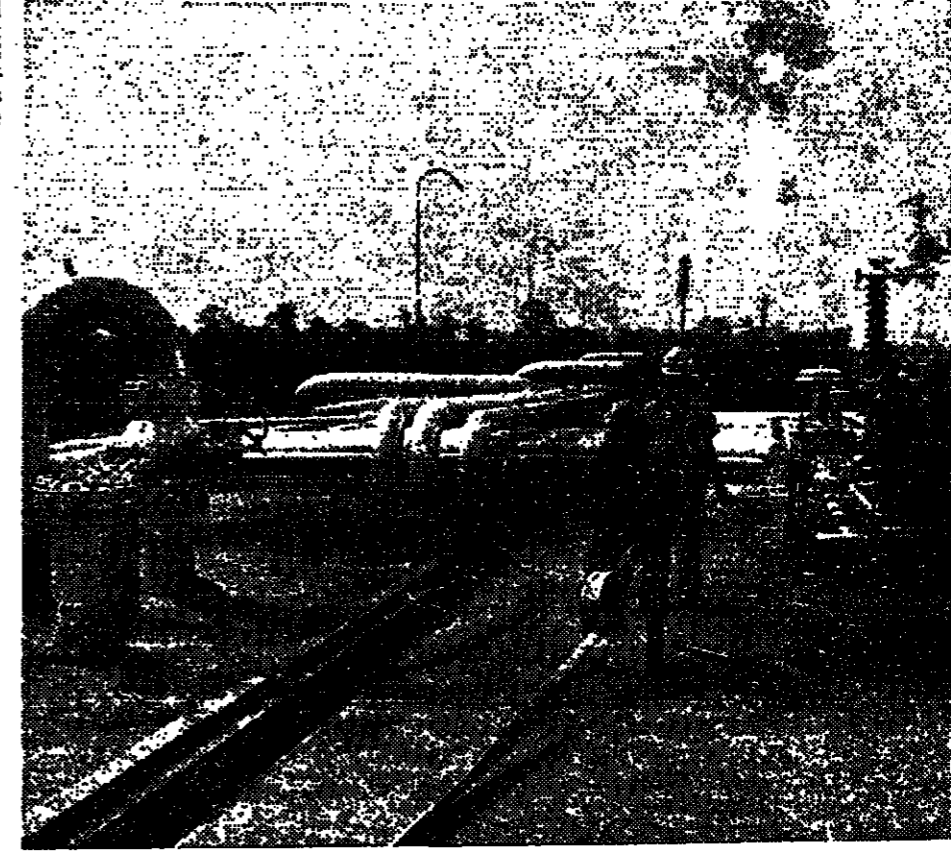
Sherrima Ali Monguno, the Commissioner for Mines and Power, earlier this year reaffirmed the Government's intention to construct a liquefied gas plant at a cost of N800m with a capacity of 1,000 million cu ft. It is understood that the four projects shortlisted by the Government are those advanced by Shell BP; Gulf; Agip-Phillips; and Tenneco. Shell BP, which has recently undertaken a revision of its plans and estimates, is apparently thinking in terms of a liquefaction plant with a capacity of more than 1,000 million cu ft of gas a day probably to be located at Bonny, with the whole project including ships costing more than \$1,000m and using gas from its fields in eastern Nigeria.

Gulf's project (likely to be based at Escravos) is thought to be smaller involving an investment of more than \$500m with a plant capacity in the first phase of about 550 million cu ft of gas a day. Export markets for both projects would almost

be the United States. It is possible that about 20 specialized LNG carrying ships could be employed in the Nigerian gas export trade by the middle of the next decade.

Several matters have to be clarified before the projects get off the ground including the participation stake taken by the Nigerian Government although if it follows the pattern of oil participation this is expected to be 55 per cent. There is then the question of the financing of the schemes, the question of who will own or operate the ships required for the transportation of the gas and the proportion of gas to be used domestically, and the price.

There is little doubt that Nigeria could be quickly in a position of exporting more gas than it is currently producing and given early decisions on the nature and scale of the first LNG plants by the beginning of the next decade gas exports could be providing a huge additional source of revenue. At a later stage the development of export-oriented refineries will supplement this revenue and as one oilman observed, "the prospects are enormous".



Gas flares form the backdrop to this oil pumping station in Rivers State. Such wastage could soon cease as the search for alternative energy sources intensifies.

1974 census will indicate what sort of civilian government can be expected

in every five on an continent is a Lagos in the fast-growing capital city in Eastern Nigeria is densely populated lack Africa, and is on the continent Johannesburg and ons. These demofacts are already what is not known is after the census is precisely how uple live in Nigerstates—or exactly y live.

about the Nige without knowin s is like describin match in ignohe final score—but ises patterns can be and tentative con drawn before, to the metaphor, the is blown.

vious census was November, 1963, ed that there were Nigerians. Assum per cent growth year and making s for the ravages of war, a final figur 70 million could y be expected. Dr Okon, a Nigerian expert, has pred-

76,700,000. Whatever result the Central Bank computer finally comes up with, it seems likely that it will be anything but an undercount—scattered populations, inaccessible areas and deliberate evasions (many people regard any government statistical exercise as a preliminary to tax demands) will see to that.

It would also be as well to add that any predictions based upon the 1963 census returns could prove wildly inaccurate. That census came immediately before the first post-independence elections in 1964, and the figures were regarded by many as politically manoeuvred: they revealed that nearly 30 million people lived in the northern states, compared with 9,500,000 in the Western State and 12,300,000 in the Eastern State. Many non-northerners boycotted the elections, in which only four million of the 15 million electorate returned to power the northern-dominated Nigerian National Alliance. The census therefore set in train the subsequent series of coups and counter-coups,

territory, covering desert, scrubland, forest, swamp, and urban areas to count the population. They travelled by bus, by horse, on foot, in canoes and by helicopter, and every person they counted had an indelible ink mark put on his or her thumb to avoid multiple counting.

The census operation itself was not without its difficulties. What, for example, could more vividly illustrate the problems of urban overcrowding than the three days taken to count 300 inmates of one house in Ikorodu Road, Lagos?

Then there were the religious objections of Muslims to what many regarded as an encroachment on *prayer*. These were overcome by the appointment of women enumerators in northern areas, and where they were not available, Muslim women were counted, heavily veiled, in the presence of their husbands who themselves carried out the dubbing of their wives' thumbs.

Road blocks were set up to ensure that people did not move for census purposes from their place of residence to their home areas—the

point being, of course, that planners must know where people are actually living working in order to provide appropriate amenities. Local chiefs had asked their absent populations to return home for the purpose of the count, hoping thereby to swell future allocations. In the circumstances the count went as smoothly as could be expected, although it seems inevitable that the final figures will be challenged by one group or another; they will have to do so silently, however, as if that were possible in the most vocal society in Africa, since debate on the results has been officially banned.

What demographic patterns, useful equally to administrators, economic planners, investors, distributors and industrialists, is the census likely to reveal? Almost certainly it will emphasize the accelerating urbanization of Nigeria. Like most developing countries Nigeria in the past decade has seen an alarming urban explosion, with the apparent opportunities of the towns proving an irresistible attraction to young people in the country, frustrated by their traditional way of life

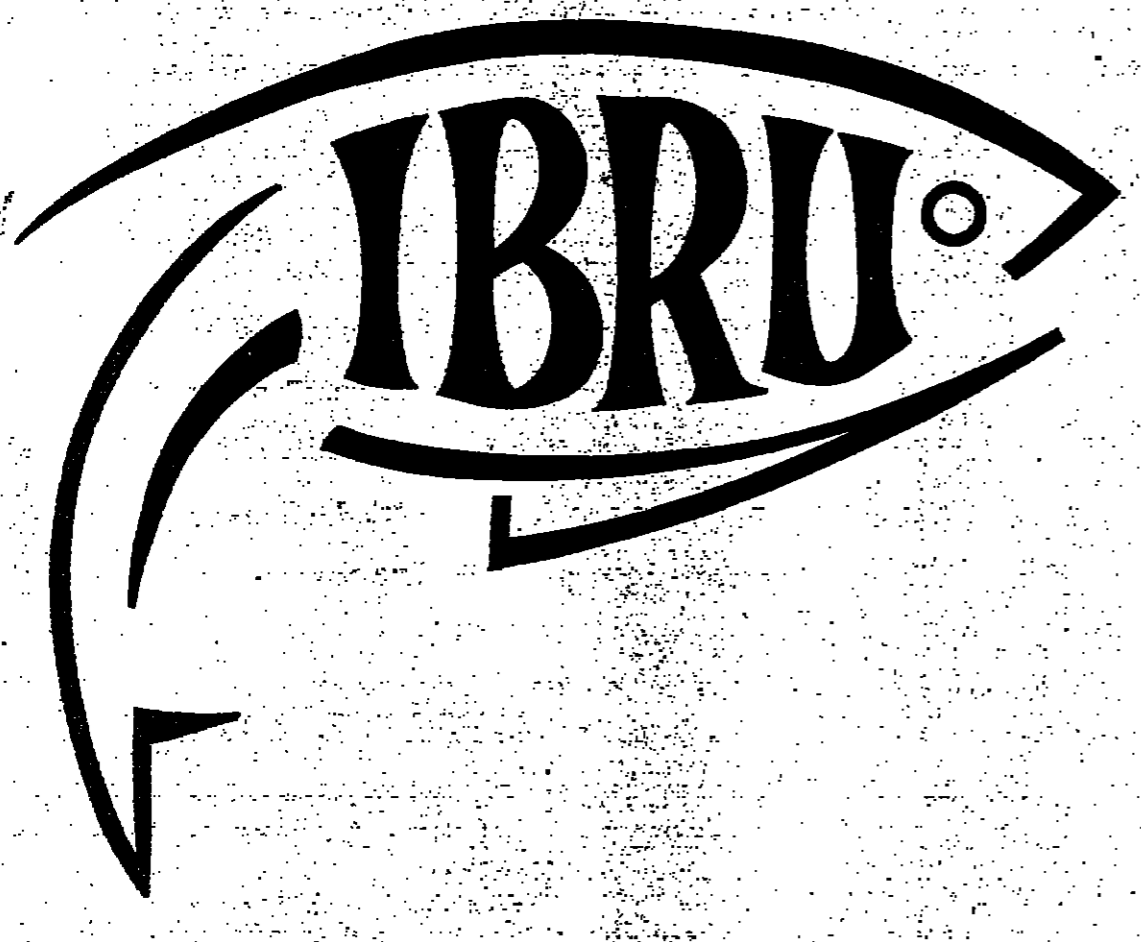
and by poor living standards. Lagos is growing at an estimated 1 per cent a year; Ibadan's population is well over a million; more than three million people live within 50 miles of Kano; in the east formerly small market towns like Onitsha, Aba, Enugu and Owerri measure their populations in hundreds of thousands, and their services creak under the weight of ever-increasing immigration from the surrounding countryside. Accurate figures on urban population will bring home the gravity of the situation, in a way that the present estimates cannot.

The census will also show whether, as seems likely, the Sahelian drought has resulted in a southward population drift. Economists will seize on trends such as these to determine resource allocation, siting of new industries, routes of new roads and so forth. But the majority of Nigerians will be making political calculations—and legal or not, discussing the implications of "how many?" and "where?"



Despite the ravages of the civil war, a population total in excess of 70 million is expected in the census. Here General Gowon and his family are included in the count.

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Drastic measures needed to revitalize agriculture

by Alan Hutchinson

Agriculture, for so long the mainstay of the Nigerian economy, has now become the poor relation of oil. In addition to what one might call the usual African disadvantages—poor soil, a conservative peasantry, government indifference, drift to the towns and a poorly conceived pricing system for export crops—it has been badly affected in recent years by the Sahelian drought.

It is little wonder, therefore, that present production of both food and cash crops is at the lowest level for more than 10 years, large imports of essential foods have been sanctioned, the export of groundnuts has been banned, and drastic short-term and long-term measures to revitalize the whole industry are being propagated.

Relief, paradoxically, has come in the form of greatly increased revenues from the export of commodities, which at N131m for 1973 were 30 per cent above the figure for the previous year. The rise is accounted for solely by worldwide prices, notably for cocoa. The "significant recovery" of export crops, to which General Gowon somewhat ambiguously referred in his budget speech, occurred not in Nigeria but in London.

The decline of agriculture has had repercussions all down the line. For example, the shipping companies have been in a quandary about the imbalance of Nigerian trade; oil wealth has enabled the country to import large quantities of capital and consumer goods, but there has been an absolute drop in the volume of produce exported. Ships which come to Lagos fully loaded leave half-empty, a situation bound eventually to have an adverse effect on shipping rates generally.

Further up the line industries dependent on Nigerian raw produce are either almost at a standstill, like the groundnut mills in the north, or are operating unprofitably, like most of the textile mills, forced by falling production to import

raw cotton at high world prices. The inability of the country to feed itself, made particularly acute in the past two years by the drought in the northern food-producing areas, has necessitated the expenditure of large amounts of foreign exchange on imports of essential foods, such as maize and rice.

Finally, the difficulties of agriculture affect directly every member of the population, whether the 30 per cent who live in the towns and complain bitterly about soaring food prices, or the farmers and their dependants.

Various theories, some credible, some not, have been put forward to explain the agricultural phenomenon: the difficulties of extending rural credit to farmers without "paper collateral"; resistance of a conservative section of the population to change to modern methods; lack of sufficient government funds and the question of interest; water problems, soil problems, transport problems, and so on.

The one theory that takes into account sufficiently the intelligence of the farming population—which tends to be heavily concentrated in Lagos—is that successive pricing systems for cash crops have given the farmer little incentive to increase or even maintain levels of production. With his intelligence in such low esteem in official circles he entered either smuggling his produce to countries where he can get a reasonable return for his labours or he simply reverts to subsistence farming.

In the days of civilian politics producer prices were set—at a low rate—by the various regional governments, which used the difference between the price paid to farmers and the realized price to finance other economic and sometimes political objectives. After the introduction of military rule variations on this theme were tried, with little success, until a year ago when General Gowon decided that the Federal Government would determine the price and make up the loss of revenue to states by subsidies.

A tacit acknowledgment that the first year's sums were wrong was made in this year's March budget, when all producer prices for commodities were increased, and some, such as for groundnuts, nearly doubled. The new prices were announced early to encourage farmers



Mechanization helps to overcome the difficulties of agricultural production.

declined, partly through the drought and partly through a depressed producer price, which has been increased by 50 per cent in the current season. Measures are slowly being taken both on the state and the federal levels to correct the situation. Recurrent expenditure on agriculture is put at N271m in the 1974-75 budget, while longer-term objectives are reflected in the N104m allocated to agriculture in the capital estimates.

The long-term way to achieve greater food production is probably the large-scale project as the Government has indicated. The Federal Government will develop water resources and from now on go into large-scale agricultural production in full force. General Gowon announced in the budget that in addition, the Federal Government will improve existing storage facilities so as to reduce wastage.

It is a tertiary freight with conflict, for large-scale production implies capital intensive production. The labour force is to be tapped and the rural areas are to be developed. The result of all this was that Nigeria exported no groundnuts and the many oil mills in the north were unable to meet their commitments. It all set to operate probably a crop of about a million tons is needed.

A similar pattern can be discerned, with variations, in the other main cash crops. A poor producer price for cocoa results in the smuggling of cocoa across the border to Dahomey. Palm oil production has been on the decline since the civil war disrupted the operation of the big estates in the east. Cotton production, too, has

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Drought restricts textile production

by Peter Hill

Nigeria's textile industry is facing probably its worst year since it was first established on a modern basis in the mid-1950s. Already this year a number of the larger mills have been obliged to put workers on short-time working, to close down production temporarily and in other cases permanently.

The present difficulties stem from the effects of drought in the northern states that have dramatically reduced the cotton crop over the past three years (although there are other problems). The prospects for the industry—which is the second largest employer of labour in Nigeria after agriculture—in the short term are not encouraging.

Towards the end of April Mr Mojisola Pinheiro, managing director of Prospect Textile Mills, described the position as "very serious and unfortunate" when he announced that the company was halting production and sending its workers on compulsory short-time working because of the shortage of cotton lint. The closures and production cut-backs by many companies prompted the Nigerian Textile Manufacturers' Association and the General Workers' Union to urge the Federal Government to import cotton lint for sale at reasonable prices to the mills.

Mr Gordon Lovelady, financial director of Kaduna Textiles, one of the largest producers of cotton fabrics in Nigeria, told me that the sources of local cotton would dry up by the end of July. This is the first year that the cotton crop has been inadequate to meet local demand.

The average annual requirement of the Nigerian industry, when all the major production units are running at capacity, is estimated at 400,000 bales. However, the requirement this year was put at 320,000 bales. In fact the supply is likely to be of the order of 160,000 bales and companies are now faced with importing cotton to carry them through the summer—and this means paying considerably higher prices.

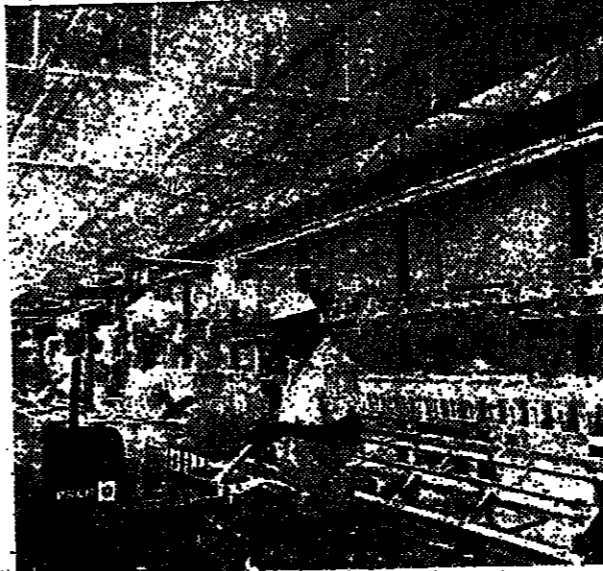
expansion of the cotton textile industry's output. The index of the industry's output (1965 equals 100) rose from 172 in 1965 to 194 in 1969 and, despite a fall to 134 in 1971, from 315 the year a number of the larger mills have been obliged to put workers on short-time working, to close down production temporarily and in other cases permanently.

The recovery in production in 1972 followed the introduction of measures to protect the industry against competition from imported textiles. In the 1973-74 federal budget higher duties were imposed on imports and there was also a reduction in the tariff imposed on long staple cottons.

The textile industry is centred primarily in the north with the greatest concentration of large production units in Kaduna, although there is further concentration in the south, in the Iketa area near Lagos.

Development of the industry follows a decision by the Government of northern Nigeria in 1955 to set up a local industry using locally grown cotton to produce fabrics as a substitute for the 200 million sq yds of fabric that was being imported at that time. It is estimated that some 35,000 workers are employed in the making-up trade in which remains very much a cottage industry.

Apart from Kaduna Textiles, other major companies include Nigerian Textile Mills, Arewa Textiles, United Nigerian Textiles, Norspin and Norrex. There are other mills in the Kano area and at Ombaka, Aba and Ilorin. The vast majority of production is devoted to cotton fabrics in the form of grey cloth and printed fabrics mainly for the domestic market, and there has been growing use of synthetic fibres, which at present have to be imported.



In spite of reductions in the textile industry this factory at Kano supplying hand and machine knitting yarns expects to increase its work force.

Because of market saturation two years ago many firms stepped up their levels of exports and the effect of the higher NPMC prices on those firms created serious difficulties. As it is, those firms that are obliged to seek cotton from overseas production and employment will have to import at a price of 45 kobo per lb compared with the previous price of 5 kobo.

In an effort to stimulate farmers to plant more cotton this year and in the future, the Federal Government announced in the budget this year that seed cotton grade 1 would be bought at 9 kobo a lb compared with the previous price of 5 kobo.

In the north, planting takes place between June and August with picking between November and February but the efficacy of this measure is dictated by the level of rainfall during the current rainy season, which in the past few years has been far from wet.

Meanwhile, although industry representatives predictably do not accept the accusation, Nigerian consumers are critical of the industry's products, claiming that prices are high and quality poor. They have shown a distinct preference in many areas for imported textile goods.

That measures must be implemented to reduce the flow of illegally imported goods, the sheer physical difficulty of parcelling the frontiers effectively is a daunting prospect.

Industry executives and the Nigerian Textile Manufacturers' Association have been pressing the Federal Government to remove the duty on the import of raw cotton, which in the absence of an adequate domestic cotton crop would help the Nigerian industry to obtain supplies and also counter the level of imports.

What of the future? Mr Gordon Lovelady, of K.T.L., considers that with its huge population and increased wealth the Nigerian markets holds tremendous prospects for the textile industry. Investment in new capacity has slowed down and there is now more than enough capacity to meet the country's needs.

If the emphasis is placed on quality, Mr Lovelady sees a considerable export trade developing on a worldwide scale, particularly in cotton fabrics. At government level there are moves to promote the level of exports in a number of areas and a prime area is textiles. "If we can produce at the right quality and price, there is an export to anywhere in the world," Mr Lovelady says.

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Oil revenue 'the most important engine of growth' but reserves are limited

In the Hotel Presidential in Port Harcourt there is a casino and a battery of one-arm bandits. There is a bar in the foyer that sells cassette recordings of comedy and western music and a clientele as cosmopolitan as anywhere in the world. Port Harcourt, now almost totally recovered from the ravages of the civil war (although some of the scars remain), is the boom town, the hub of the Nigerian oil industry. The government-owned hotel is the cocoon into which the oil men withdraw after their stint on the oil rigs and production platforms in the swampy swamps of the delta or in the shallow waters offshore.

It is Nigeria's virtually sulphur-free oil that has attracted the big oil companies to the Delta region and which in turn has produced Africa's most populous country with what the late Yakubu Gowon described in his April budget speech as its "most important engine of growth". Oil, and the revenue which flows from it to the Federal Government coffers, is transforming the Nigerian economy, although the Government and the people recognize that oil reserves are finite and that the changes which are being forced on the country must be carefully evaluated.

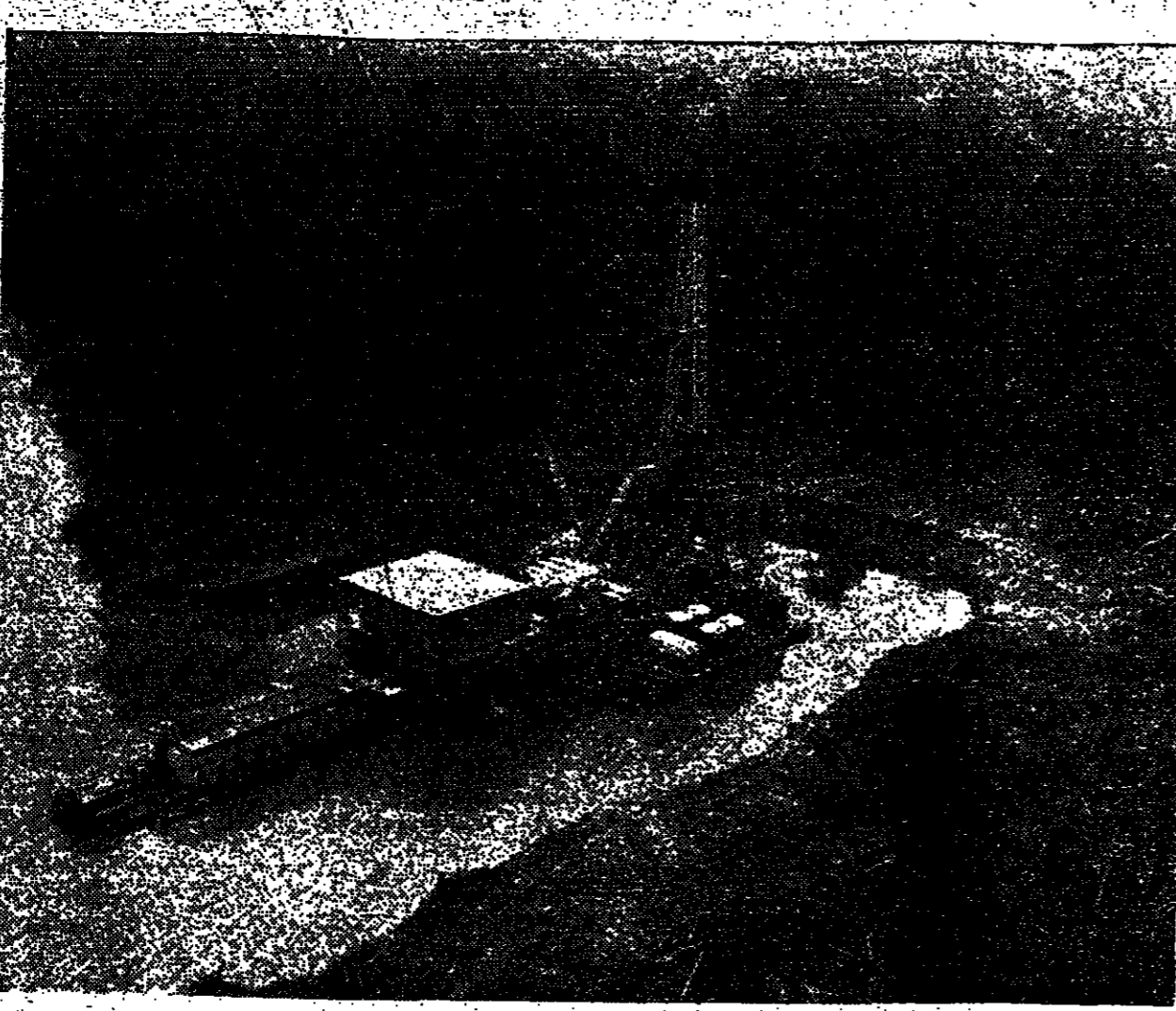
Nigeria's oil industry has developed to a point where it is now challenging the much longer established oil-producing nations of the Middle East. The export of crude oil last year represented some 83 per cent of the total value of Nigeria's exports which amounted to \$2,226.6m while total production of oil in 1973 amounted to an estimated 250 million barrels, sufficient to place the country seventh in the league table of the world's leading oil producers.

Oil therefore exerts, and will continue to exert, an enormous influence on the rate and scope of Nigeria's development for a considerable period—a period when the country is undergoing dramatic changes in terms of greater industrialization and modernization of its agricultural industry which in the longer term will be of even greater importance.

Modest increase in production

Nigerian oil production rose steadily from nothing in 1957 to 116,000,000 barrels 10 years later and has risen even more dramatically since the end of the civil war in 1970 when production amounted to 395,800,000 barrels. The following year production totalled 338,900,000 barrels and in 1972 655,300,000 barrels.

Early last year the Federal Government indicated that it would seek to lift production by 20 per cent by the end of the year. Production did in fact exceed two million barrels a day for the first time during August and in the final quarter of last year was running at about 2,000,000 barrels daily. In its budget speech at the beginning of April General Gowon stated that there



Nigeria's oil industry has developed to a point where it is challenging the much longer established oil producing nations of the Middle East. An oil rig site in Rivers State where (right) Nigerian crewmen are handling drilling equipment.



would be only a modest increase in production in the present financial year in line with plans made before the Middle East crisis. He emphasized that it was not his country's intention to take undue advantage of the present advantaged situation in the world petroleum industry.

But within the Nigerian oil industry there are many who consider that production could well reach between three million and four million barrels a day by late next year or early in 1976. This is because of the continued high rate of discovery of new reserves, the nature of Nigeria's oil, which because of its nearly sulphur-free characteristics make it highly sought after, and also because of Nigeria's need to maintain revenues at a high level to diversify its economy.

Greater flow of funds

On October 20 last year Nigeria lifted the official posted or tax reference price for 34° gravity oil to \$8.310 per barrel from \$4.287. Then from the beginning of this year the posted price was again lifted to \$14.631 per barrel initially for the first quarter of the year and subject to currency and freight fluctuations.

As a result of the latest price increase it has been calculated that total Nigerian oil revenues in the current year will amount to \$7,000m and \$8,000m which, as *Newsweek* noted in March, is about 16 times the sum that the World Bank advances every year to the entire African continent.

This is an enormous sum and has important implications for the Federal Government and the way in

which the substantially increased flow of funds is distributed among the 12 states of the federation.

At the same time Nigeria has been taking an increasing interest in the activities of the oil companies operating both on and offshore concessions through the Nigerian National Oil Company which was established in April 1971. It has been the NNOC, working to a large extent under the authority of the Federal Ministry of Mines and Power, which has promoted increased Nigerian participation in the oil industry with the ultimate aim of gaining complete control of the industry.

There are about half a dozen major producing groups operating in Nigeria. The largest is Shell-NNOC which accounts for about two thirds of production, and followed by Gulf, Mobil, Agip/Phillips, Sotrap and Texaco. Soon after its formation NNOC took a 33 1/3 per cent interest in the activities of Agip/Phillips and later a 35 per cent stake in Sotrap.

In June last year the NNOC negotiated a 35 per cent participation stake in Shell-NNOC which was backdated to the beginning of April, 1973, while the agreement also provided for NNOC to lift its stake to 51 per cent by 1982. The agreement also meant that a proportion of the Government's crude oil would be sold to Shell-NNOC as buy-back oil while the state oil company would also give its partner "commercial opportunity

to buy additional quantities. At about the same time the Government negotiated a production sharing contract with Ashland Oil under which, if oil was discovered in commercial quantities, Ashland would be able to recover costs including royalties and tax payments from a part of production. The agreement also provided that the balance of production up to 50,000 barrels a day would be shared, with

the national oil undertaking taking 65 per cent and Ashland 35 per cent while the NNOC would take 70 per cent of production above the 50,000 barrels a day level.

The Government also negotiated a 51 per cent participation stake in the activities of Tenneco, Deminor/Niger Oil (which in May struck oil offshore), Delta Pan Ocean, Japanese Petroleum (which has made a number of successful strikes), Occidental, and Henry Stephens (a Nigerian private sector undertaking). Most of those engaged in the producing companies appear to have exercised the first option for the second quarter they will have access to about 86 per cent of overall Nigerian output while it is estimated that the Government will have access to about 330,000 barrels daily for direct marketing on a this year.

New refineries will cut imports

Although Nigerian oil production has increased steadily over the past four years and Nigeria now ranks among the leading oil exporting nations of the world, it is faced with a growing shortfall in the supply of domestically produced refined oil products. Nigeria is obliged at present to import about 20 per cent of its refined products requirements, mostly from Europe, to meet growing domestic demand.

Over the 1963-73 period demand for refined products has been growing at an annual rate of about 9 per cent. Nigeria's only refinery, Alesha-Elene, near Port Harcourt, has a daily maximum throughput of about

60,000 barrels a day and is unable to meet the national requirements. Commissioned in 1965, the Alesha-Elene refinery is operated by Nigerian Petroleum Refining Company (60 per cent) and Shell and BP (each with 20 per cent). Plant breakdowns and other difficulties mean that the volume of imports has had to be increased substantially.

In an attempt to reduce the drain on foreign exchange involved in the import of refined products the Government has announced that it is to build two new refineries. The first will be at Warri in the Mid-West State and the second at Kaduna, which will serve the northern region.

Under the original plans

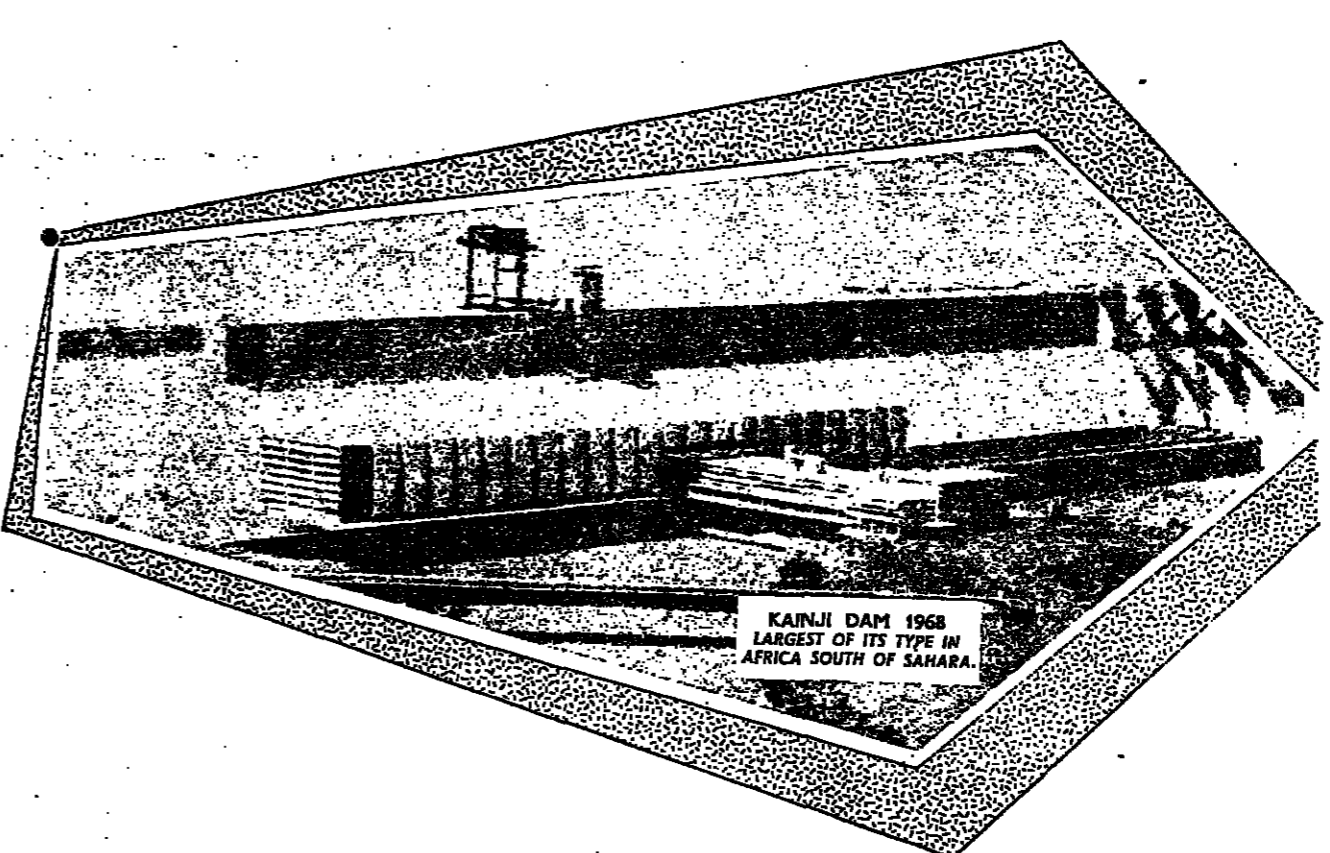
the Warri refinery should have been commissioned in March. But it is unlikely to begin operations much before the end of 1977 with an initial throughput of about 40,000 barrels a day rising to about 70,000 barrels a day. The site has been cleared and construction work on the plant, which is likely to be owned solely by the Government, is scheduled to start shortly.

The refinery at Kaduna, about 300 miles north of Lagos, is scheduled to be operational by 1980 and there is speculation that it may involve some foreign shareholding. Capacity there is also likely to be of the order of 70,000 barrels a day. The location of the Kaduna refinery is geared

not only to the Federal Government's plans for achieving a greater dispersal of heavy industry but also to the possibility of exporting refined products to Nigeria's neighbours, notably Niger and other countries which adjoin the northern borders.

General Gowon referred earlier this year to the construction of export-oriented refineries though it is not clear at this stage where these will be or what capacities are planned. However, if consumption follows the pattern of the past decade it seems likely that when the Warri refinery is operating at its planned full capacity, Nigeria is almost certainly going to be self sufficient in refined products. Depending on the rate at which industrial development takes place in the northern regions, the Kaduna refinery therefore could well export a proportion of its production.

NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY

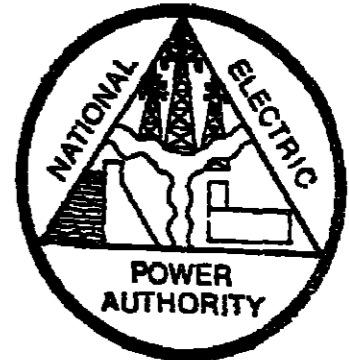


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A study carried out at the beginning of this year by the Transport Planning Unit of the Federal Ministry of Transport into the potential for pipeline transport concluded that it would be uneconomical to build a pipeline from Port Harcourt to Kaduna for refined products in advance of a refinery being built in the North.

The study also looked at the possibility of a pipeline to link the groundnut producing areas of the north with either Port Harcourt or Lagos. On the basis of present rates of production of groundnuts and groundnut oil, the construction of a pipeline to serve the southern part of Nigeria and for export was considered uneconomical.

However, the report said that if production returned to levels of before 1969 and the presently available oil pressing capacity of about 400,000 tons a year was fully used a groundnut oil pipeline might become "economically desirable". It would require a throughput of between 200,000 and 300,000 tons before it was competitive with either road or rail haulage.

P.H.

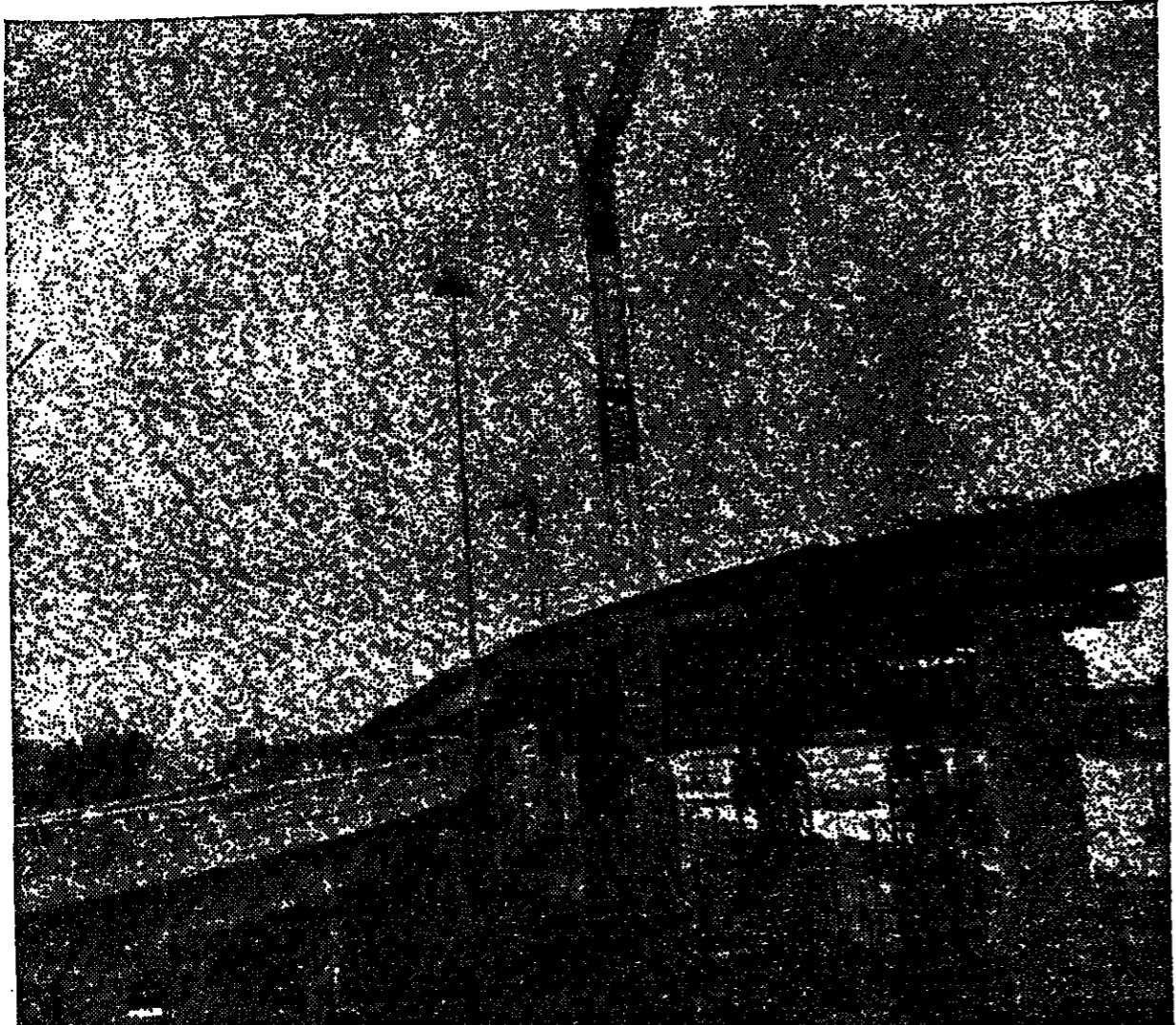
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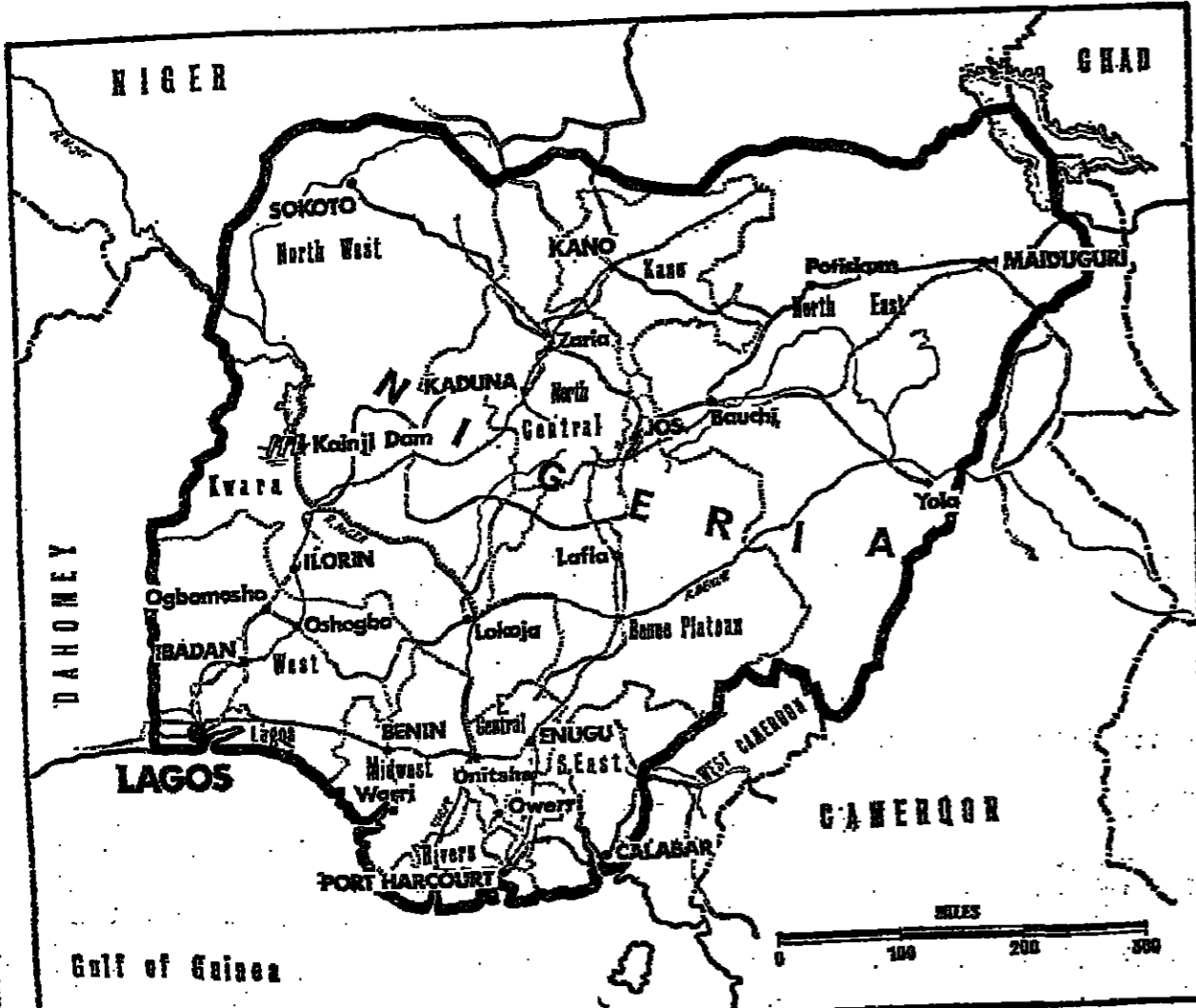
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SOUND PROGRESS DEVELOPMENT



1. Road development is a priority programme. The Federal and State governments will spend about £166,294 million on road development during the current Plan period. Picture above shows part of an elevated super highway complex under construction.

2. (Below) Yards of textile rolling off a machine. There are many textile mills producing various types of clothing materials all over Nigeria.



NIGERIA'S continued advancement in economic and social activities is buttressed by national stability and a general determination to ensure the essential co-ordination of resources, both human and material.

The main pillars of this concerted effort of national construction were highlighted by the Head of the Federal Military Government, General Yakubu Gowon (the 1973/74 Chairman of the Organisation of African Unity) in his budget statement earlier this year. His theme was the upliftment of the people's quality of life through deliberate measures directed towards minimising the burdens of rising prices.

In announcing anti-inflationary measures, he declared that "Government would utilise the increased revenue earnings from petroleum to substitute for traditional revenues from duties on local industries and, in addition, contain imported inflation within limits. Import and excise duties on goods affected have been reduced."

Increased housing construction is being facilitated by lower costs, both of materials and equipment.

To meet food requirements, food items previously restricted are now permitted entry and transportation problems have been eased substantially by a national price level for petroleum products and cheaper vehicles through reduced costs.

A significant boost for rural advancement is the increase in producer prices payable for cash crops. These measures for groundnuts, cocoa, cotton, coffee, palm oil and kernels, copra, bent-seed, soya-beans are designed to provide incentives for farmers. To assist farmers to deal with problems of capital, the Federal Government has established an Agricultural Bank, which has given out N4.6 million (about £3 million) already.

Five river-basin authorities are to be established. They are Niger River, Benue River, Hadejia-Jama'are River, Ogun River; two were established last year for the Sokoto-Rima and the Chad basins.

Projects, which will be undertaken by these authorities will mean more than containing droughts (and floods). Their main functions include:

- (i) the exploitation of underground water resources by sinking bore holes
- (ii) the construction of dams for irrigation and flood control purposes

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The wastage of gas in the oil fields, where about 200 million cubic feet was flared daily last year amounted to over N500 million (about £300 million). It is hoped this year, recent studies of the collection, liquefaction and export of gas as well as its conversion into petroleum chemicals will enable the establishment of a plant for the liquefaction of natural gas.

The Chad Basin Development Authority is executing the first phase of the South Chad irrigation project covering 45,000 acres at a cost of £20 million. This project will be expanded to cover 100,000 acres in the near development plan period.

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The project will also make it possible for farmers in the area to harvest two or three crops in a year.

It will create job opportunities for more than 10,000 workers in the flour and rice mills and the sugar, and tomato and meat processing factories which will be sited in the project area.

The area will also have electricity from the hydro-electric power from the dam. The benefits of all these to the local community are obvious.

(iii) the development of large-scale mechanized farming to increase the production of both food and industrial crops

(iv) the control of soil erosion and desert encroachment through afforestation and other means.

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Also, drilling work on coal deposits in the Lafia area of Benue State indicated that coal of high quality exists in that area.

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between Ajoakuta and Lokoja in Kwara State.

Although implementation of the first project will necessarily take some more time, the Federal Government recognises the desirability of starting, as soon as possible, preliminary work on a second plant based on the direct reduction method which would make good use of Nigeria's abundance of natural gas.

In addition, the machinery for distributing electrical power is being investigated to facilitate transmission and supply.

Efforts are continuing for the establishment of the iron and steel complex in association with the Sokoto-Rima and General Gowon State Steel Plant, but implementation of the project had been inevitably delayed by a number of time-consuming but essential studies and preliminary work, which must precede actual implementation.

Extensive geological surveys of the whole country in the search for iron ore of sufficiently high quality has had to be commissioned; for instance, so that project design and location may be appropriately oriented to locally-produced or imported raw materials as the case may be.

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ANTI-DROUGHT MEASURES

As is generally known, Nigeria is dealing with problems caused by the Saharan drought and has, so far, expended over N40 million (about £30 million) to relieve hardships. Work is, however, in hand to provide irrigation facilities and other requisites for long-term solutions to water shortages in the areas affected.

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THE ROLE OF PETROLEUM

The principal engine of economic growth is petroleum. As an oil-producing country, Nigeria has benefited from the increase in the price of petroleum.

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ROAD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Road Development is one of the priority programmes in Nigeria. The Federal Government is executing a road programme of over N340 million. This amount does not include cost of road projects by State Governments.

Last month alone, the Federal Government awarded contracts worth N46,104,145.70. One of these is for the construction of the Maiduguri-Gambaru road (N25,345,856.92), which will cover nearly 100 miles. The other two are for the Little Gombe-Imeta road. Projects already completed include the N23,658 million Apapa road complex.

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SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY

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ADVERTISEMENT

Federal Government of Nigeria

NATIONAL F NIGERIA



Nigeria

Gombe-Yola road, Benin road, phase 1 to Kari road, Benin road and the Sokoto road (linking Nigeria to the rest of the African continent). Some of the work on the latter is African Highway 1.

the firm intention of the Federal Government to up the country and to facilitate the movement of goods from one part of the country to another in order to enhance inter-state trade and to boost exports. This is based on a policy of regional economic development which is a precondition for the exploitation of the vast agricultural resources by the people for the common good.



BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE POSITION (£1 = N665)

For the 1974-75 fiscal year, the Federal Government has authorised a foreign exchange budget involving an outflow of about N2.7 billion and estimated receipts of N3.2 billion. Thus there will be a favourable balance at the end of the year which will further strengthen the external value of the Naira. The performance of our external trade sector in 1973 shows a remarkable improvement over that of 1972 which was also a good year. The level of visible exports which stood at N1434.2 million in 1972 rose to N2,226.6 million in 1973, an increase of over 55 per cent. This was due largely to the increase in the volume and price of petroleum exports which now accounts for 85 per cent of the total value of exports recorded. The N313 million recorded for traditional exports in 1973 represents over 43 per cent improvement on the previous year. Thus, the Naira exports registered some of the grounds lost in 1972 when a decline of 30 per cent was registered.

Just as exports grew in 1973, so also did import bills rise. Imports were valued at N1,294 million in 1973 as against N998.1 million in 1972. The non-oil sector almost wholly accounts for the increase in the value of imports with the highest increase recorded for industrial raw materials, passenger cars, transport equipment, food, durable consumer goods and capital equipment, in that order. Not only is the increase in the general level of imports consistent with growing exports, but the structure of imports continues to fall in line with the desired direction of the development of the economy. Besides, the

rate of growth of exports (at about 55%) is much less than the rate of growth of imports (at over 25%), so that the increase in the import bills is more than offset by the increase in export earnings. The net effect is a substantial increase in visible trade balance from N41.4 million in 1972 to N392.6 million in 1973.

The invisible or services account, as usual, registered a deficit. In other words, Nigeria pays out more on services such as shipping, airline travel, and investment income to other nationals than we receive on these services from abroad. The deficit increased from N495 million in 1971 to N772.7 million in 1973. The oil sector accounts for 70 per cent of this deficit. For instance, out of the N887.3 million deficit recorded in 1973, over N415 million was paid out as investment income to non-resident shareholders of the oil companies. With increasing participation of Nigerians in the sector, such payments will decline in the years to come. It should also be noted that the deficit has been growing in a relatively healthy proportion to the general growth in the economy. In a way, until we develop the shipping capacity, etc., to carry the bulk of our external trade, these deficits on services account are to some extent inevitable in a rapidly developing economy.



EXCHANGE CONTROL RELAXATION MEASURES: PAYMENT FOR IMPORTS

In view of the improved foreign exchange situation, government has decided further to relax restrictions on the trade account. The policy in respect of payment for imports is now abolished and in its place we are returning to normal commercial trading practice. Capital equipment valued at over N100,000 will however continue to be paid for on suppliers' credit terms to be approved by the Central Bank in respect of the private sector and the

Federal Ministry of Finance for the public sector. The new credit guidelines for capital goods will be more liberal and flexible in application.



PROFITS AND DIVIDENDS

The highlight of the decision relating to profit and dividends is that we are now returning to the pre-war practice of authorising retention of dividends as they are declared provided that the proper taxes have been paid on them. All outstanding arrears will, therefore, be cleared during this financial year. With regard to management and technical fees, it is decided that a fixed fee only should be payable in the first five years of the establishment of a new company and thereafter a percentage of gross profit not exceeding 5% may be considered in deserving cases. Turnover on net sales may be considered as a yardstick only in exceptional cases. Applications for technical fees and royalty payments will be related to the state of technology of the industry concerned as well as the evidence or otherwise of a centrally directed research and development effort in the industry. Thus, each application will continue to be treated on its own merit within these broad guidelines.



FINANCIAL DETAILS OF THE BUDGET

This year, the Federal Government expects to collect N2,122 million out of which N531 million represents Statutory Appropriation to the State Governments. An additional N35 million is to be paid as Non-Statutory Appropriation to the States as compensation for revenue loss consequent on the abolition of export duties and sales tax on Marketing Board produce and rubber. Federally retained revenue is thus estimated at N2,496 million. Petroleum now provides over 80 per cent of Federally retained revenue.

The estimated Federal Government recurrent expenditure for 1974-75 is about N955 million which leaves a recurrent budget surplus of N1,501 million for transfer to the Development Fund for financing Federal Capital expenditure. Thus over 85 per cent of Federal current revenue will be utilized for capital development.

TODAY, Nigeria, utilizing the prosperity and political stability of recent years, has moved forward courageously to find fresh avenues to develop all aspects of its national resources. In doing so, it has demonstrated its capacity for self-reliance. When the next four-year national development plan is launched in 1975, Nigeria will further present a dynamic nation devoted to the welfare and happiness of all its people.

MONETARY AND BANKING POLICY

The sectoral credit guidelines for 1973-74 will be maintained in 1974-75, that is, the proportion of each bank's total credit to the various sectors of the economy should be as follows:

Production	45%
General Commerce	32%
Services	11%
Others	12%

The stipulated percentage shares for the productive sectors will be treated as minima while the ratios allocated to general com-

des of opening up the by means of a of super highways has a root than the econo- for it fosters less.



EDUCATION

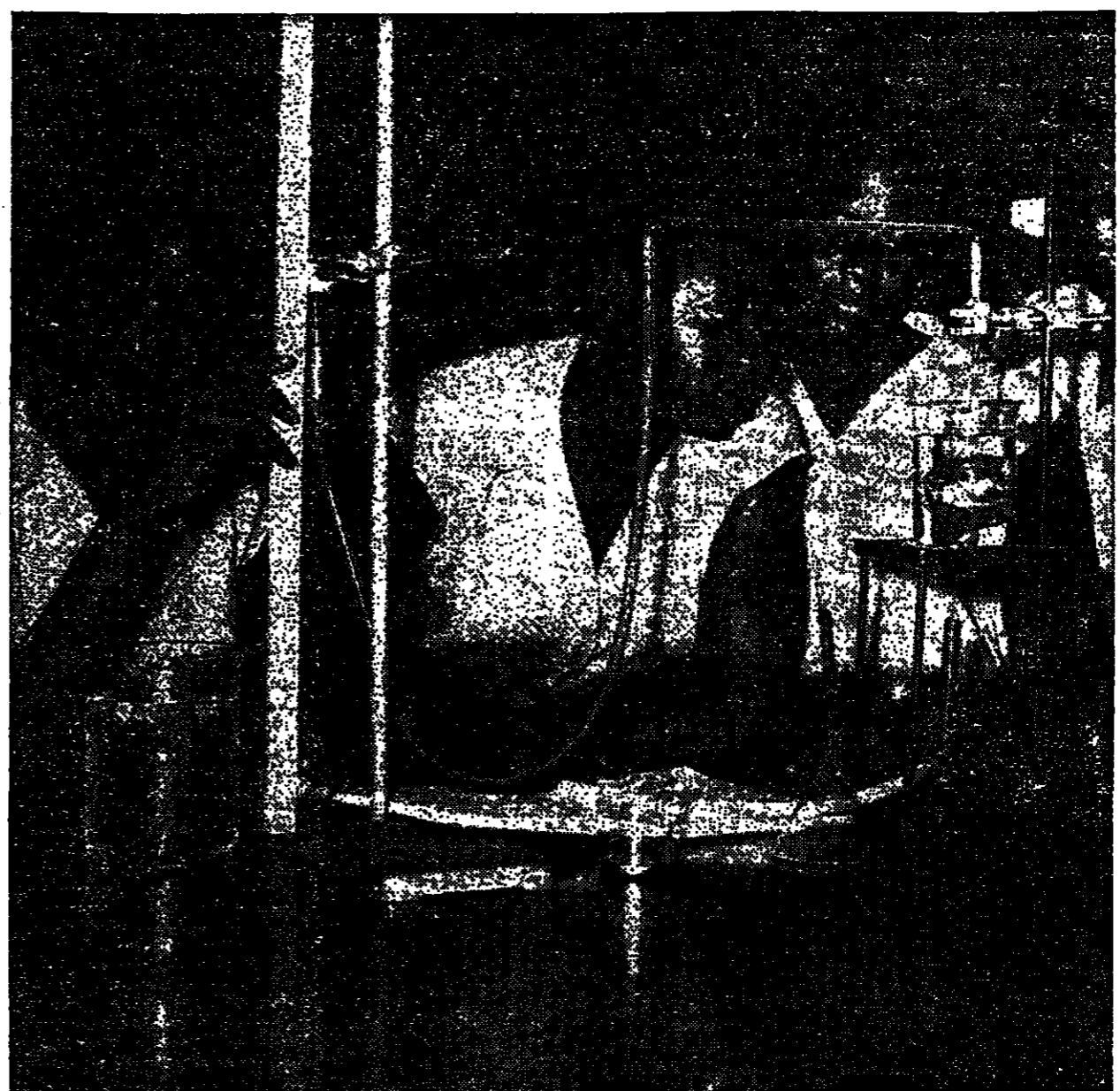
verities and nine col- of technology/poly- higher education ions are playing a role in the produc- urgently needed el manpower.

ederal Government has ed a Council for ement and Training to o programmes for n- management and an istrative College is established near

ally to enhance under- among Nigerian the Federal Govern- has set up "Unity" all over the coun- which State has one and one girls' secun- school.

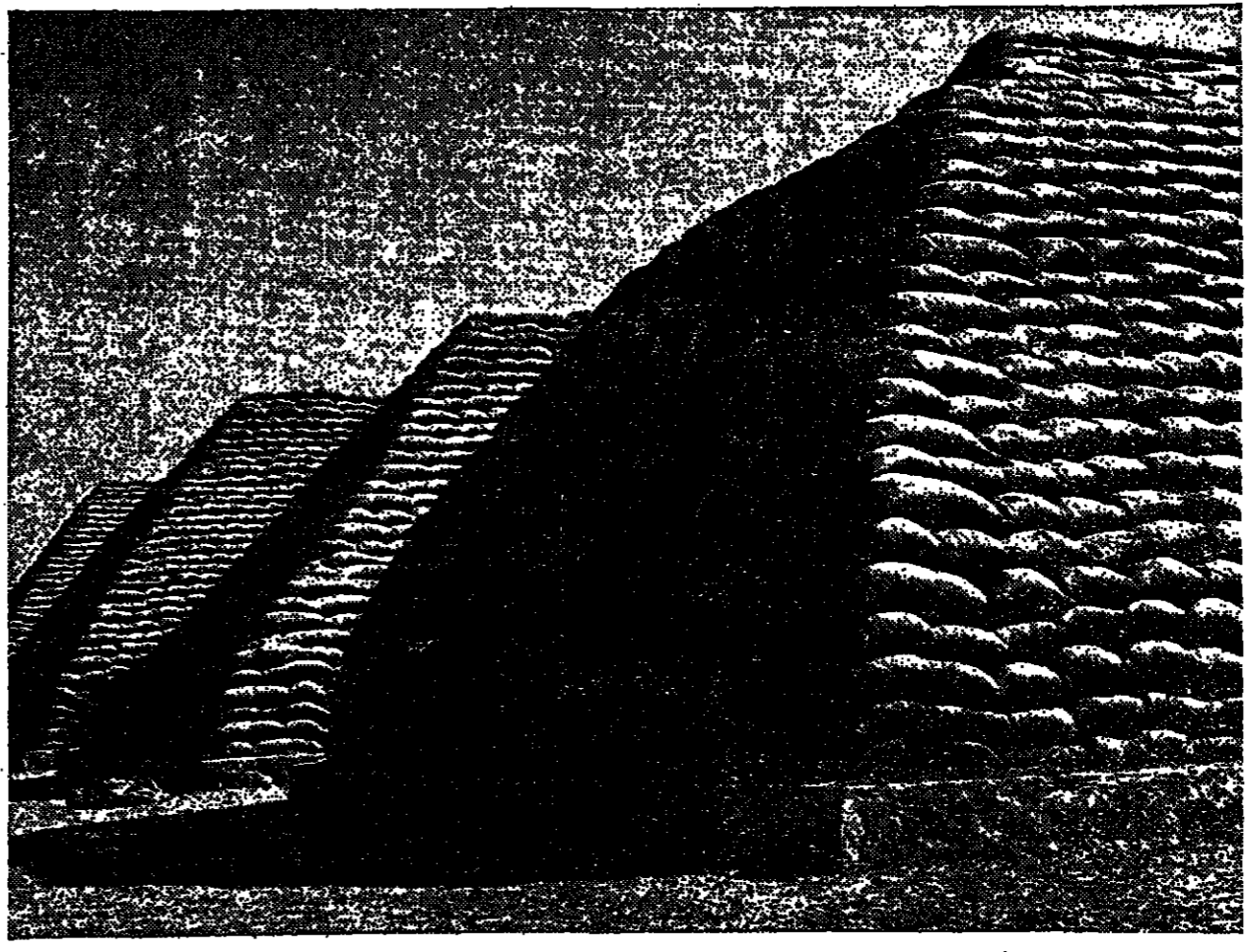
education stan- being nurtured by al inspectors and consultations among eal policy-makers administrators from all verments of the ion.

all else, however, is critical decision to in- Universal Primary on, which will be d compulsory in all the country in 1975. a end, crash pro-



4. With six universities and nine colleges of technology in the country, the Federal Government has made substantial investments in the field of post primary education. In addition to Federal Government Colleges which have been opened in the states (one boys' and one girls' in each state) six non-degree granting institutions of higher education will be opened later this year. Of these, three will be advanced teachers' colleges and the other three will be Federal schools of arts and science to undertake basic studies. Picture above is of Young Secondary School girls working in a science laboratory.

5. (Below) Pyramids of an important export cash crop—Groundnuts.



6. (Below) The Head of State, H.E. General Yakubu Gowon, laying the foundation stones of the N150 million Sakoto Dam and Irrigation project of the Sokoto-Rima Basin Authority.



BUSINESS INDIGENISATION SCHEME MAKES GOOD PROGRESS

INDIGENISATION DECREE

During the first two years, the Nigerian Enterprises Promotion Board has worked strenuously to collate information, classify industries and to identify the businesses affected by the Decree. It has also taken appropriate measures to educate the general public on various aspects and implications of the indigenisation Decree. In addition, seminars and training programmes have been organised by the Universities, and under the auspices of the Association of the Nigerian Chambers of Commerce, Industries and Mines as a means of improving and developing managerial skills among Nigerian Businessmen. All these steps are very welcome and augur well for the eventual success of the Scheme.

Considerable progress has been made in the take-over of businesses affected by the Decree, and contrary to the fears expressed by some foreign concerns, funds have not been lacking for the purchase of shares in businesses in Schedule II of the Decree. If anything, the issues of shares have been oversubscribed many times. Thus far, therefore, progress on the scheme has been satisfactory. However, it should be clearly understood by all that the intention of the Federal Military Government in promulgating the Decree is first and foremost to promote greater and more effective indigenous

participation in the economic life of the nation. It has never been, and it cannot be, the intention of the Federal Military Government merely to create avenues for a few individuals to grow rich excessively and easily on account of the indigenisation Decree, while the country's economic well-being suffers or shows signs in that direction.

I wish to stress also that the successful implementation of the indigenisation programme demands a lot of sacrifice from, and poses a big challenge to, all Nigerians who now have a duty to ensure the maintenance of high standards of integrity, business acumen, public relations and general efficiency. To this end, Nigerian businessmen should avail themselves of managerial training facilities wherever available. In this connection, it may be mentioned that a programme of Industrial Training has been launched by the Industrial Training Fund, and regular Courses will be conducted under the auspices of the Centre for Management Education.

HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL YAKUBU GOWON, Head of the Federal Military Government and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, and Current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity.

Foreigners' concern over investment security

by Effiong Essien
economics editor.
Daily Times, Lagos

A decade ago, foreign businessmen were encouraged to come and invest in Nigeria. They were offered several types of incentives—assistance in securing land in order to build their factories, freedom to repatriate profits and dividends, the promise that their investments would not be confiscated, and, above all, tax holidays, extensive capital and depreciation allowances as well as tariff concessions.

With these incentives, in addition to Nigeria's large and growing internal market, private foreign investors trooped into the country. They put money into mining and manufacturing, construction, trading and service industries. By 1968, cumulative private foreign investment had reached N1,021.4m (about £555m) from N643.6m in 1964. Investment in the manufacturing sector climbed up to N204m from N117.6m in 1964. At that date Britain's

share of total investment was 51.1 per cent—slightly higher in the manufacturing sector.

Although the net addition to total foreign investment declined from year to year—from N126m in 1964 to N103.4m in 1968—mainly as a result of the unstable political climate between 1967 and 1970, Britain succeeded in increasing its investment from N27.2m in 1964 to N40.8m in 1968. After the civil war in 1970, when political uncertainty was cleared, foreign firms were once again confident and so they reinvested their unremitted profits and borrowed money from abroad to finance new investments and to expand existing industries.

However, one question is constantly being asked: do private foreign investors still have the confidence they had in Nigeria a decade ago, when incentives were generously offered and foreign investors treated as the prime movers of the economy? At the moment, these incentives are still operating, though not as liberally as

before, as the number of firms which qualify for some of them has been declining.

But what bothers the foreign investors, those already in Nigeria and those planning to come in, is whether Nigeria will continue to honour its pledge not to nationalize foreign investment. After what has happened in some other developing countries, their fears are justified. If indeed it is true that Nigeria is not to nationalize foreign businesses, what will be the final phase of the country's indigenization scheme?

This has been the problem confronting most foreign investors in Nigeria. It is believed that in less than five years, the 40 per cent equity capital acquired by Nigerians in foreign enterprises under schedule II will be raised to 100 per cent. That would be a mild form of nationalization, although the purchase of shares by Nigerians would mean that foreigners were returned the capital they invested without the delay often experienced in a non-negotiated nationalization.

The fact that private foreign investors worry about these problems demonstrates clearly that whatever the

nature of fiscal and industrial incentives offered, nothing can substitute for security of investment and the prospect of a high rate of return on the investment. There can be no denying the fact that Nigeria continues to promise attractive returns. Thus it is the security of investment that has become the most important consideration.

Because the investment climate is uncertain, private foreign investors welcome measures that would increase their profits in the early years so that they can take back enough money before nationalization to justify their risk. Therefore some industrial incentives are still necessary.

Under the existing industrial incentive scheme in Nigeria, a manufacturer qualifying under the approved scheme is allowed to import raw materials specified in the customs tariff either duty-free or at a concessionary rate of duty. And under the Income Tax Act, companies may be allowed to write-down their capital assets in the early years of operation, so as to enable them to amortize their capital assets during the formative years.

The Act allows a company to depreciate the value of its machinery by as much as 40 per cent in its first taxable year. This is in addition to the normal annual write-down of between 5 and 10 per cent allowed. Thus in its first taxable year, the company is allowed to deduct from its profits up to 50 per cent of the value of machinery. Where the company's taxable income does not absorb the full capital allowance, the unabsorbed portion can be carried forward indefinitely against future taxable profits.

In addition, some industries are declared "pioneer" and allowed to enjoy some tax privileges as new companies. The principal criterion for deciding whether a company should be a pioneer or not is the extent to which it will use local raw materials for manufacturing. The underlying reason is that Nigeria has "boundless resources" that could be developed without any need to import raw materials.

Moreover, because of the need to encourage the development of certain industries, incentives nowadays apply only to carefully selected industries which meet the requirements of national priorities. These include iron, steel and fertilizers, but exclude cosmetics, biscuits, and textile industries.

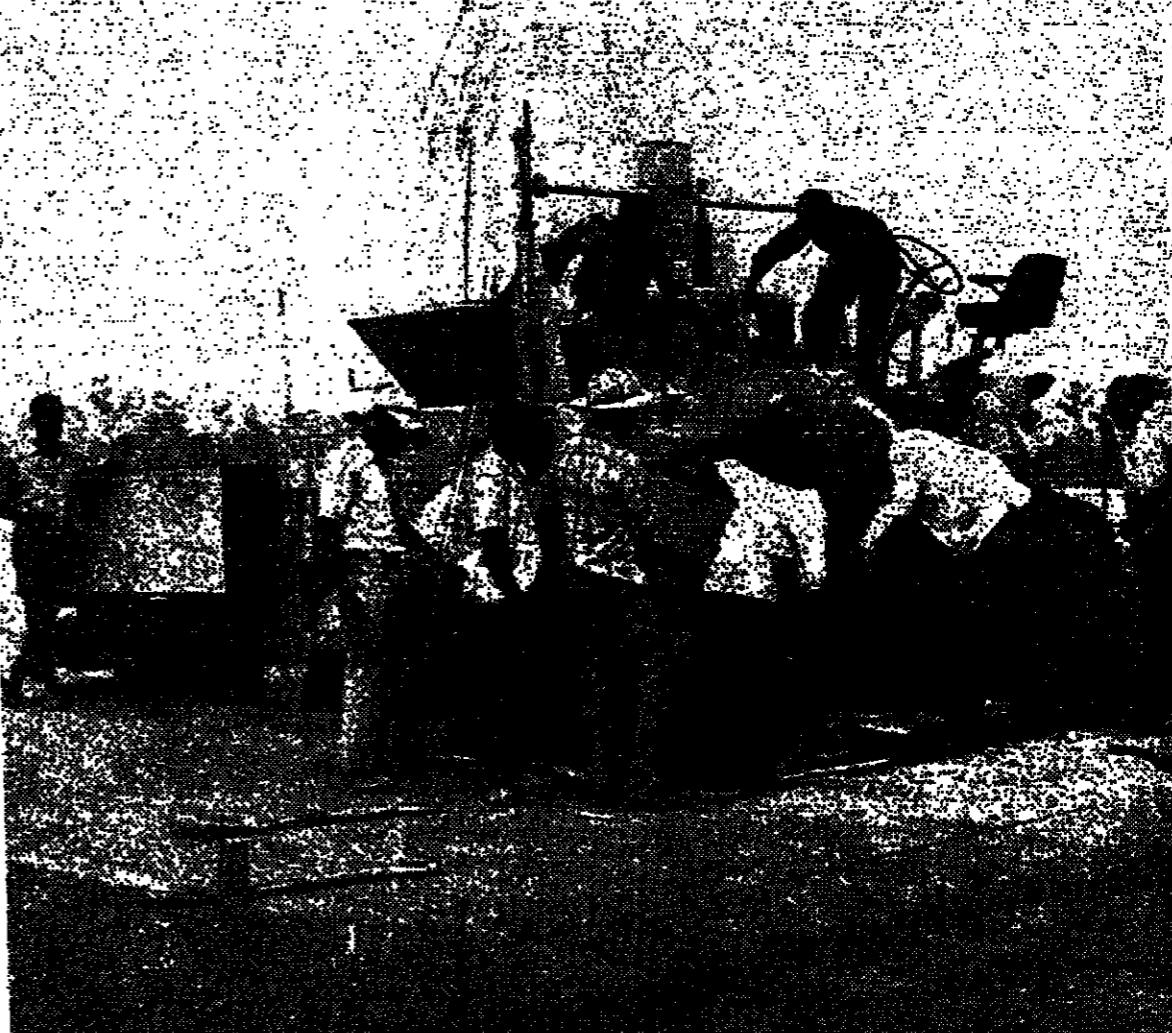
tries producing only cotton final-piece goods and prints. Because of the need to encourage and protect Nigerian participation in certain areas of the economy, 20 enterprises are now exclusively reserved for Nigerians. Under schedule II, 35 enterprises are for joint participation between Nigerians and foreigners, in which case the minimum interest to be owned by Nigerians is 40 per cent. No approval will be given for the establishment of new businesses in Nigeria unless they comply with the requirements for Nigerian participation.

Foreign investors seem to accept this new development as an insurance against any possibility of nationalization. Indeed some British companies in Nigeria had already taken steps to hand over some of their activities to Nigerians before the decree was promulgated. Produce-buying, for example, was handed over to Nigerians by UAC (Nigeria) in the early days of independence.

Successful examples of joint ventures initiated by UAC before the indigenization decree include the largest bed-producing company in the country—Vono (Nigeria)—a subsidiary of UAC, in which the Governments of Western State and Lagos State have shares. There is also a plastics company started by UAC, in which Western State has some shares. Another example is the General Cotton Mills at Onitsha in which the East Central State Government has participation.

In fact, UAC had been noted for its policy of joint participation either with the Government, Nigerian private citizens, or other foreign interests. The company's approach towards the sale of shares in order to satisfy the 40 per cent minimum requirement has been to invite the various state governments to take substantial shares before the remainder is sold to the public. It is believed that the company seeks to establish itself firmly in each of the states and to prevent hostility from any of the state governments.

Some other companies have also adopted this policy. On the whole, it is not because they do not like to operate alone as they did, but because they are responding rapidly to the wind of change in the country—a change which means the marrying of capital, skill and foreign technology for the development of the country as well as safe returns to foreign investors.



Plans to enlarge the airstrip at Enugu have involved extending the runway.

How to win friends with 'indigenization'

by Alan Hutchison

One of the major economic problems facing every African government, how to increase local participation in foreign-owned business without scaring off potential investors, has been solved in Nigeria by a neat piece of legislation known as the Nigerian Enterprises Promotion Decree—commonly shortened to "Nigerianization" or even more clumsily to "indigenization".

The common sense and flexibility with which the Federal Government has carried out the decree has won praise not only from foreign-owned Nigerians, but even more surprisingly from many of the "victims" too.

Fundamentally the decree, promulgated in February, 1972, set out to reserve 22 specified business areas entirely for Nigerians by April 1 of this year (Schedule 1) and to increase Nigerian participation in a further 33 businesses, under certain conditions, to at least 40 per cent (Schedule 2). Schedule 1 enterprises are generally small, non-complex businesses—typical examples would be bakeries, taxi services and cinema management, but also including larger enterprises like newspaper publishing—which the Government felt could or should be adequately handled by citizens.

Schedule 2 businesses included light and medium manufacturing industries, certain professional activities such as estate agencies, technical distribution agencies, large-scale fishing and shipping. These were to be barred to foreigners if their paid-up share capital did not exceed N400,000 or their turnover did not exceed N1m, whichever was considered more appropriate; otherwise they had to ensure at least 40 per cent Nigerian participation in their equity.

The word palaver is supposed to have originated in Nigeria, and in the past two years there has been a great deal of it. It is a price, palaver over definitions, over deadlines, over finance, all of it conducted with that vigour and good humour for which Nigerians are renowned.

The original decree envisaged that in such a subtle exercise a great deal of flexibility would be needed. It is, after all, virtually the first time in an African takeover of this size that the notion of "fair play" (the Nigerians like their British phrases) has been mentioned.

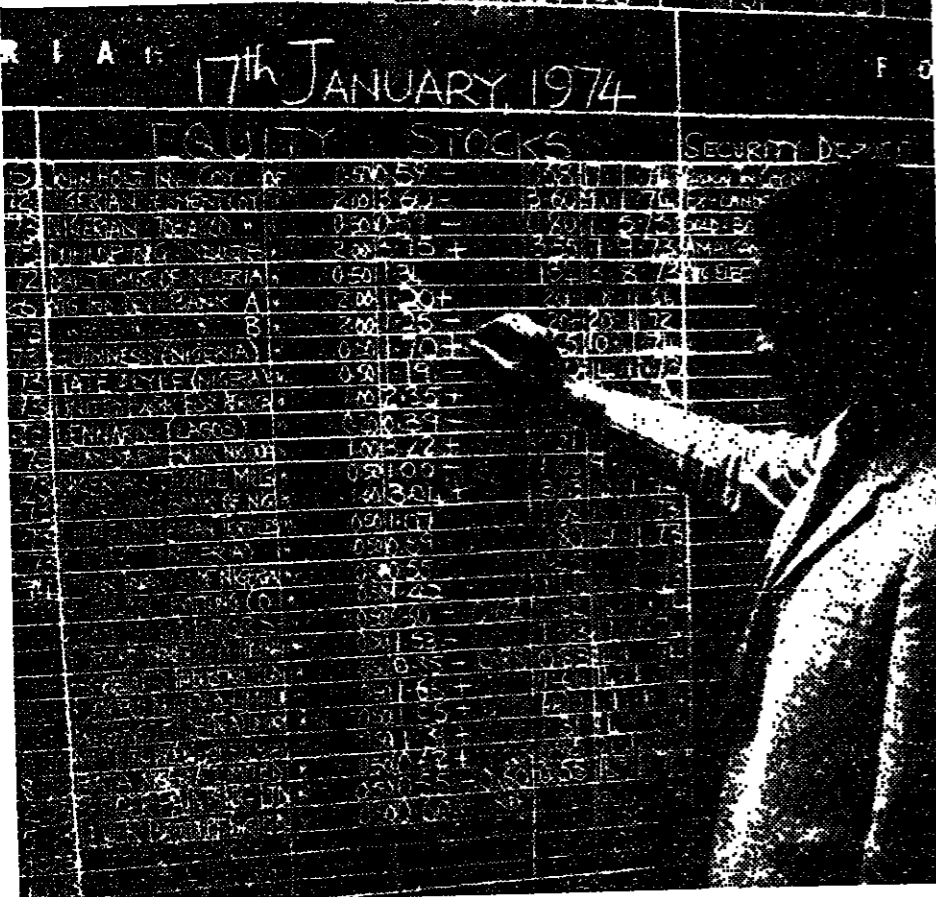
And there has been flexibility. Some Schedule 1 enterprises were "promoted" into Schedule 2, time limits were extended and compromises worked out. Among 13 firms given a last-minute extension in which to comply with the decree were some well-known British names—Knight, Frank & Rutley, Evans, Ryobers, publishers, and Dunlops. A development which was to be sold to the Government by the Commonwealth Development Corporation had a 45 per cent interest, was "promoted" from Schedule 2 to Schedule 1, and the status of a "Nigerian Association".

What will be the practical effects of indigenization? As far as Schedule 2 companies are concerned, the answer is little. Possibly management will take notice of the point made in the Guidelines for the Third National Development Plan—that the indigenization Decree seems to have extended to ownership of enterprises without attention to control. The missing factor here is a requirement that in all cases where the pattern of ownership of an enterprise is changed by reasons of the decree, the board of directors should reflect the pattern of ownership such that at least a third of the members of the new board of directors is Nigerian.

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Government measures to ensure Nigerian part-ownership of foreign business have brought increased trade to the Lagos stock market.

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Manufacturers and policy-makers seek new ways to enter world export markets

As often bears the brunt of efforts to effect changes in the These changes re the moderat the agricultural increase exports for domestic iments. And id be further the manufactur which, accord second national plan, would overseas assistance, can fo e. ge in oil prodoo- cularly raised packy to earn exchange. How- y-makers have old that earnings ch is notably a et, should be eform the agri- er and establish ing, basic to exchange if and wells dry up. continues to be source of foreign unings, a solid ed manufac- is still needed the indisput- of manufactured to guarantee foreign earnings. Unlike the tradi- tional sector, rs can control of their products reduce prices. My is the sec- r which the de- mian question- ry-makers is the which occupies parts to other countries—how break into the port market? e manufacturing e Nigeria has been idly, by about of between 1962 1972, in terms of to the gross oduct and export s share is still

Production should start at once

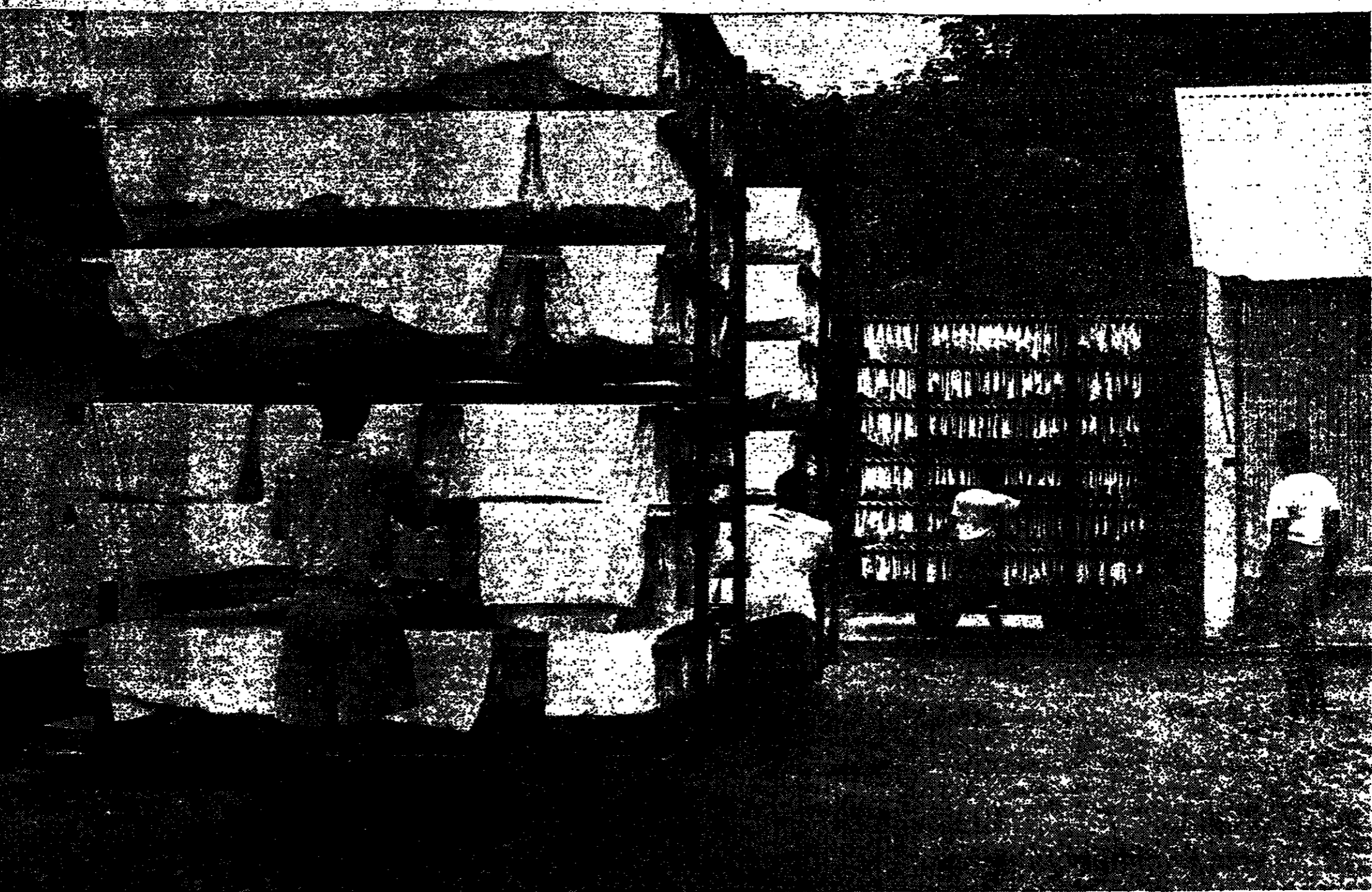
Similarly, Nigeria would not wait to see complete replacement of imports in the industries already operating before opening up new frontiers. It is necessary that the production of machinery and equipment, vehicle and parts should start at once since these items constitute more than 60 per cent of Nigeria's imports. But more important perhaps is that it is in the area of manufactures that Nigeria can begin to establish its identity in the international market.

The problem has been how to get this business done. Meanwhile, Nigeria produces and exports nothing in the form of machinery and transport equipment. If Nigerian businessmen start on their own, to establish these industries, perhaps motivated by the growing wave of indigenization, then there would be problems of technology, product research and international marketing techniques which are not available to them.

It would be nigh-impossible for local manufacturers to make new brands that could compete with the popular brands exported by established manufacturers, even to other developing countries. Nor would the clamor call for economic independence permit foreign manufacturers to establish these industries on their own, although sectors like cars and machinery do not fall into Schedule 2 of Nigeria's indigenization decree which calls for 40 per cent participation by Nigerians.

Admittedly, the manufacturing industry has been growing rapidly, next only to the oil industry. But expectations now the major preoccupation of policymakers. Thus the approach has been that of inviting reputable manufacturers from the industrial nations to submit their terms for joint ventures. In many cases, the equity share of the foreigner would certainly be 40 per cent or more to meet the indigenization minimum target.

The response by foreign manufacturers has been en-



Trucks loaded with rubber sheets are taken into the curing house at Sapelle, in Mid-Western State.

couraging, and in the present-day approach to overseas foreign investment, joint venture with the Government is certainly an insurance against the risk of possible nationalisation and other problems. An example of this joint venture in Nigeria's new export industries is car and bus manufacturing. Such joint venture agreements are also expected in other export industries.

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Cars produced in Nigeria for export to the developing countries within the tropics are already produced and tested in a tropical Nigerian

climate, which in effect, has an advantage over cars produced in temperate zones for the tropics. This applies also to many other products. On the other hand the international partners in the business have nothing to lose. They receive safe and reasonable returns to their investment, but above all their brand image receives a secondary marketable value.

Therefore Nigeria with its size and oil wealth has the potential of capturing part of the developing markets of the world from the industrial nations in the non-traditional export industries. Some measures are being taken by the manufacturers to increase exports mainly to African and other developing countries.

However, the problems facing them are many. Domestic demands for the products have not yet been met despite the increase in the manufacturing index from 174.7 during the first quarter of 1972 (base quarterly average of 1965) to 207.0 in the third quarter of 1973.

Expansion capacity has been withheld because of shortage of raw materials and foreign exchange constraints. But the 1974-75 federal budget had considerably released foreign exchange and import duties on raw materials. What is now required in addition to fiscal measures is an export promotional campaign—the granting of export subsidies and the setting up of an export promotion board to provide information on the world market.

E.E.

ADVERTISEMENT

NIGERIAN PRODUCE MARKETING COMPANY LTD.

IN PERSPECTIVE

By far, the most important sector of the Nigerian economy is agriculture and this situation is certainly going to continue for a long time to come. At present, about 75% of the country's population is engaged in agriculture and allied industries. And in spite of the recent boom in the petroleum industry, agricultural sector still accounts for more than 50% of the Gross Domestic Product. Also, agricultural exports have always been a major source of foreign exchange earnings for Nigeria and have, until quite recently, been the propelling force for the country's economic development.

producer prices fixed by the Federal Government. Consequently, the States Marketing Boards now act as agents of the NPMC in effecting the actual purchasing of the produce from the farmers. The main purpose of the Federal Government's takeover of the NPMC is to ensure that remunerative producer prices are fixed and paid to the farmers in order to encourage increase in production.

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Subject only to the satisfaction of the NPMC's conditions for registration, the NPMC is always delighted to open negotiations with any buyer in any country of the world for the sale of Nigerian Marketing Board produce.

The NPMC requires cash payment to be made in foreign exchange. Quotations are, therefore, made in foreign currencies. Terms of sale depend, to some extent, on the type of sale made i.e. whether C.I.F. or F.O.B. But, generally speaking, payments are required to be made through Irrevocable Letter of Credit. For highly reputable buyers, who have got business connection with the NPMC for over two years, the Company may accept payments on the basis of Cash Against Documents for C.I.F. Contracts.

However, in order to ensure improvement in the overall efficiency of handling controlled produce, the Federal Government (which is now the Producer Price Fixing Authority responsible for fixing producer prices for all controlled agricultural produce) has, with effect from 1st April, 1973, taken over the NPMC. Instead of the NPMC being the overseas selling agent for the various State Marketing Boards, as hitherto, the Company is now responsible for purchasing produce from the farmers through the States Marketing Boards at the

Sales are never made on terms involving barter or the granting of credit. Also, the NPMC does not appoint any agent for the selling of the commodities handled by it. It does not therefore, pay any commission whatsoever.

For detailed information regarding the operations of the NPMC, please contact:

**THE GENERAL MANAGER,
NIGERIAN PRODUCE MARKETING COMPANY LTD.,
72, CAMPBELL STREET,
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NIGERIA.**

Telephone: Lagos 25241-6. Cable: EMADEX LAGOS. Telex: 21250 & 21251.

West African economic union a basic aim

relations with the world, and with the special impetus in year because of the Organization of Africa in this capacity. Nigeria's head of Africa has taken a important initiative in the most important leadership of the Caribbean and ACP) countries in negotiations about relationship with the Economic Community West African Community (CEAO)—Ivory Coast, Niger, Upper Volta, Mauritania, Mali and Senegal—which all indicated a long-term view that they would be prepared at a later stage to incorporate into a larger, bilingual grouping.

The obstacles to such a community are formidable. The countries embrace three currency areas, but the most powerful brake is the fact that Nigeria's size, population and newly-found wealth would make it a dominating partner. Indeed, these suggestions are resisted strongly in Lagos, but given the country's present economic lead and the strategic logic of the situation, a union would be in a fairly strong position.

Nigeria's expanding industries would tend to suck in the skilled labour of its partners, and it would logically become the workshop of the entire region, and, of course, the supplier of re-

fined petroleum. Political fears about unbalanced allocation of industries would tend to intervene, too, a pessimistic prognosis perhaps, but in the light of general squabbling amongst the economically sophisticated members of the EEC not an entirely unrealistic one. Ghana, for one, would certainly watch the development of a West African community inevitably beholden to Nigeria with considerable suspicion.

Short of a full common market much could be done and needs to be done in West Africa about the sharing of common services and the adoption of common practices. Some encouraging signs have appeared recently—all countries in the area have switched to driving on the right, and the development of better inter-regional communications.

Nigeria paid for the construction of the road from Porto Novo, Dakhonny to Ikorodu, Nigeria, a rare example of one developing country helping another. Direct river communication has also been established for the first time on the Niger River between Port Harcourt and Gaya in Niger, and a bilateral air service with Ghana has been started. There is still considerable scope for improvement in inter-regional post and telecommunications links, as well as in the removal of unnecessary bureaucratic travelling procedures.

A welter of other assorted agreements, loans, gifts and investments indicate Nigeria's intense interest in bring-

ing about greater regional integration. Along with Niger, Chad and Cameroun, a Nigeria is a member of the Lake Chad Commission, an organisation devoted to exploring ways of developing the now sadly drought-stricken lake. Nigeria has given drought relief to the Sahelian countries and assisted Mali in establishing a youth programme.

Nigeria also has a 5 per cent stake in the multinational consortium formed to develop Guinea's new iron mine, which it is estimated will guarantee a supply of one million tonnes a year of the ore for Nigeria's proposed iron and steel industry. An agreement with Sierra Leone secures other supplies of ore in exchange for assured deliveries of Nigerian crude oil.

On a different plane, Nigeria staged the Second All-Africa Games last year, and is due to be host to the Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture in November, 1975. This sponsorship is not without its domestic critics who feel that the N36m (about £24m) due to be spent on a national theatre, nor to mention the huge administrative costs, would have been better used elsewhere.

But this is symptomatic of the role Nigeria has cast for itself in African and world affairs. In sport, culture, and in international politics, the country has always had a thrusting ambition to be first, to be best. Now, Nigeria has the money to support those aims.

A.H.

couaging, and in the present-day approach to overseas foreign investment, joint venture with the Government is certainly an insurance against the risk of possible nationalisation and other problems. An example of this joint venture in Nigeria's new export industries is car and bus manufacturing. Such joint venture agreements are also expected in other export industries.

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long, a & n. 1. Measuring much in space, etc.

span, n. 1. Full extent from end to end, as 'span of a bridge', 'span of a roof' etc.

longspan, a, 1. Spanning a long distance without a supporting structure, etc.

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Lagos-Apapa: pilferage rife and facilities overstretched

by Peter Hill

For well over a century Lagos has been the dominant Nigerian port and the steady expansion of the facilities at neighbouring Apapa has confirmed that position. In the nineteenth century it was the river systems of the Niger and the Benue that provided the main gateways to the hinterland of Nigeria, but the development of the railway system early this century and the pace of economic development have combined to elevate Lagos-Apapa to a seemingly unassailable position as the country's premier port complex.

Such is the volume of traffic handled by the facilities at Apapa that lorries struggling to enter and leave the port create huge traffic jams. The effect of this is to reduce the efficiency of the port and its facilities, and as one prominent user summarized the situation, "basically cargo does not move fast enough in relation to the capacity of the port itself. Nevertheless during 1972-73 (the last full year for which figures are available) the Apapa wharf and the Lagos customs quay handled about 75 per cent of Nigeria's import and export traffic. It is estimated that last year's total probably rose to about 80 per cent. Within the Lagos port complex during 1972-73 Apapa handled some 99 per cent of export and 90 per cent of import traffic.

During that year both import and export traffic fell sharply with the downward movement in export trade stemming from increased demand from Nigerian industry for traditional export commodities. The effects of poor harvest conditions and fluctuations in overseas markets for principal Nigerian exports.

Over the past three years total exports have slipped down steadily from 1,100,333 tons in 1970-71 to 800,333

tons in 1971-72 and to 722,684 tons in 1972-73. The fall in the volume of imports during the year was attributed to government restrictions in foreign exchange transactions, increased use of local materials by domestic industry and industrial problems in some of the world's major ports which reduced the number of ships calling at Lagos, while there was also some movement of ships towards other Nigerian ports. Total imports amounted to just under 2,200,000 tons compared with 2,340,000 tons the previous year, and 2,130,000 tons in 1970-71.

There has been a pronounced decline in the volume of principal export commodities through the port over the five years since 1968-69 with the sharpest drop being recorded in the volume of groundnut exports, that have fallen from slightly more than 700,000 tons in 1968-69 to about 150,000 tons in 1972-73. Exports of groundnut cake and palm kernel have also shown a decline though less marked.

During 1972-73 a total of 1,649 ships called at the port complex, with ships from the enlarged EEC being the most numerous. The turnaround time of ships varied between 3.3 and 5.5 days, according to the Lagos Port Operations Committee. The committee also claimed that after the severe congestion in the aftermath of the Civil War the year saw a further reduction in the number of days ships were waiting for berths to 2,013 while the number of days vacant when berths were vacant rose for the third successive year to 1,498.

Meanwhile the pattern of cargo movements in terms of import deliveries and export receipts in recent years has shown a huge emphasis in favour of road as against rail transport. This is stretching the handling facilities at the port to breaking point and creating serious congestion problems.

The number of mainline railway wagons engaged in moving goods inwards to the port complex has fallen from 1,200 in 1970-71 to 800,333

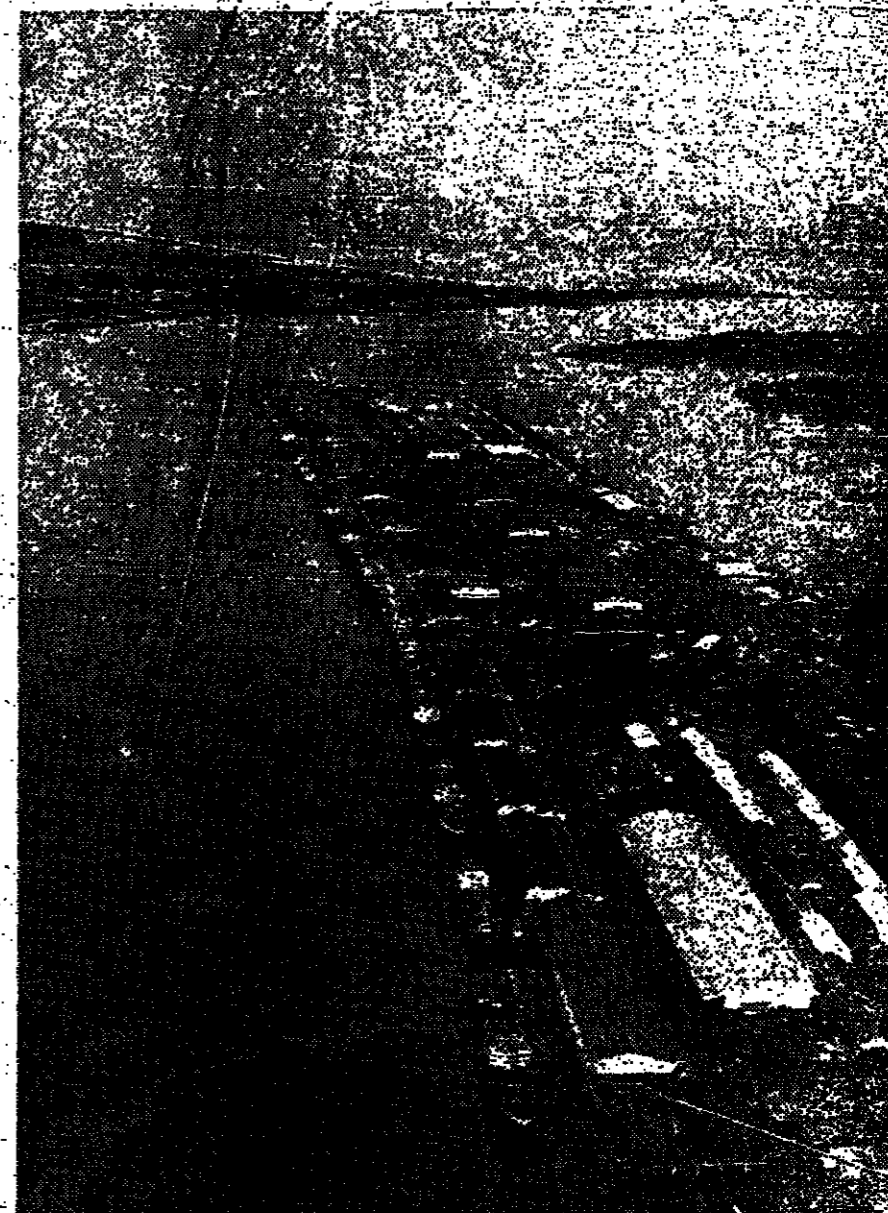
in outward movements. Road transport has increased sharply so that in 1972-73 50 per cent of all road and rail deliveries to Apapa were handled by road. This was 2 per cent more than the previous year, while out of road and rail export receipts at Apapa, some 81 per cent was accounted for by road compared with 68 per cent two years earlier.

Port facilities in the Lagos complex consist of three berths at the customs wharf on Lagos Island opposite Apapa which are old, cramped and being adjacent to the Marina district, are subject to dense traffic congestion. The view of independent consultants is that the quay should not be considered in any development plan for the port because of these constraints.

Across the water at Apapa, the wharf extends over 8,000ft with 14 berths—one of them handling principally containers—a growing feature of trade at the port—and backed up by supporting warehouses and transit sheds. Most of the cranes are more than 40 years old and, despite the efforts of the Nigerian Ports Authority to improve the level of equipment efficiency, it is not uncommon, according to a reliable source, for up to 50 per cent to be out of action.

For the future, expansion of the Lagos port complex is envisaged. Under the new plan which ends next year, a total of N54m is to be spent on extensions. This will involve the construction of a container terminal and three conventional berths, dredging, reclamation and the purchase of cargo handling equipment. Out of the total cost of the project, the World Bank is to supply a loan of N36m. Construction of the new berths is scheduled to start this year while the container terminal is expected to be completed by August, 1976, and the three other berths at yearly intervals thereafter.

More immediately, however, the port is suffering from fundamental problems in relation to the loading and unloading of cargo. Pilferage, even of containers, is



Apapa, the port of Lagos, is to be expanded by the construction of a container terminal and three new conventional berths. New cargo handling equipment is also to be introduced.

because the authorities' social and economic interest in containers being tampered, checked and then imported again thus defeating the concept of containerization. It is not uncommon for thieves to paddle alongside ships either discharging or loading cargo and to be in the channel waiting a berth and load what they can into their canoes. The number of claims handled by the traffic department of the Lagos port complex has risen steadily from slightly fewer than 23,000 in 1970-71 to 50,331 in 1972-73.

The Port Operations Committee attributed the increase to poor and illegible identification marks on consignments handled at the port. It also alleges that the military and the NP's own security personnel. All this is apparently to little avail in reducing the incidence of pilferage.

There are now attempts to improve the dock labour situation in the Lagos port complex with the Government seeking to enter the clearing and forwarding business and at the same time substantially reducing the number of registered clearing and forwarding agents. Whether this will produce improvements in efficiency remains to be seen but industry sources appear somewhat sceptical.

It is clear that the Government felt that in the coun-

effective and efficient rationalization of the port can encourage unless incentives are made to present system. The shipping companies are an increased interest in rationalization with a number of inward cargo rising from 3,227 three ago to 8,017, representing a tonnage of more than 100,000 tons in 1972-73.

The West African has yet to be fully containerized but Nigeria is going to be an influence on the pattern of development. "Combo" ships able to 410 20ft containers scheduled to be operational service into Apapa by the end of year and shipping of emphasize that the container business is growing well.

But there is little doubt that containerization will develop, certainly in the next decade, but less abundant, notably introduction of the new container berth and the improvement of the terminal.

Port Harcourt: victim of war

British industry was still grappling with the problems of the three-day week and growing shortages of fuel when the Elder Dempster Agencies representative at Port Harcourt received a message asking him to organize a visit to the coal mines at Enugu, which reached him through the company's Lagos office, had been dispatched by the Ocean Transport and Trading subsidiary, Cory Sols Fuel International. His task was to assess the coal quality, quantity and methods of transport and shipping of Nigerian coal, the idea being that, subject to the outcome of the assessment, coal could be shipped to Britain to relieve in part the coal shortage which was at that time a worsening situation.

In the event the export of coal did not take place (one difficulty is the lack of adequate equipment at Port Harcourt to satisfactorily grade the coal), but it is a possibility for an expansion in the future of the port's trade, particularly in view of the promised programme to develop the port's coal output and stimulate new markets for coal and to develop exports to West African countries which already take small quantities of the industrial output.

The largest coalfields lie in the area round Enugu and there are estimated reserves of some 40 million tons in the Enugu escarpment alone. From 1952, when a peak level of more than 80,000 tons a month was reached, production has dropped back sharply, with demand affected by the policy of the railways to favour diesel traction and also the fact that during the civil war the coalfields of the eastern region were cut off. There are other reserves in Benue State and Kwara State.

The industry has been slow to recover from the ravages of the civil war and output last year at 300,000 tons was only just over one-third of production achieved 10 years earlier. But if the expected development and expansion of the use of coal take place, Port Harcourt will inevitably be an important export terminal. During the financial year 1972-73 the port shipped out some 21,000 tons.

Difficulties, however, are being experienced, particularly a shortage of suitable railway rolling stock, which earlier this year meant that substantial quantities of coal could not be moved from the pitsheads at Enugu.

The Government has attached great importance to developing the port's coal business and this was underlined by the Commissioner for Mines and Power, Alhaji Shehima Ali Monguno, when he paid a visit last year to inspect facilities after the signing of agreements to supply two African countries with coal. The Government, he said, was optimistic of finding more overseas markets for Nigerian coal.

The coal handling facility, which was completed in 1928, has sustained damage during the war, and if coal were developed as a major export commodity would probably require further im-

provements. Situated on the river Bonny, Port Harcourt was developed as an inland harbour in 1911 and quickly established a superiority over the port of Bonny (although Bonny has subsequently regained its former importance) and was developed as an oil export terminal. By custom the facilities at Port Harcourt, consisting of 3,500 ft of quays incorporating six berths and supporting transit sheds and warehouses, served the old Eastern Region of Nigeria. Some 45 nautical miles from the sea, Port Harcourt is also a southern railhead for the eastern arm of the railway system.

The civil war hit the activities of the port severely and it has still fully to recover the trade which it lost during the war, although there are indications that this is now beginning to happen. According to some estimates trade through the port is probably at about half its prewar levels, reflecting the hold which Lagos-Apapa developed during the war with a considerable number of merchants establishing warehouses in the Lagos area from which imports could be distributed onwards by road.

In the past the main exports through Port Harcourt have been palm kernels, cotton seed, palm oil in drums and groundnut cake. However, with agricultural crops being badly hit by the adverse conditions over the past three years and since increasing quantities being processed and consumed within Nigeria, trade through the port has been affected.

Towards the end of last year the former port manager, Captain F. O. Ego, was prompted to describe the level of exports, then standing at a rate of about 17,000 tons a month, as "not so encouraging". Since then the situation appears to have improved. His successor, Mr F. B. Agoro, told me that during March this year the port handled a total tonnage (both import and export) of 98,000 tons, which was the highest monthly total since the port's reactivation after the war, and it was expected that April would realise 100,000 tons of traffic.

Occupancy of berths had improved to a point where often ships were having to wait for berths and with upwards of 2,000 workers employed daily at the port. "Encouraging" times were improving and attracting more shipping lines. The port has no bulk handling facilities, but Mr Agoro claimed that in recent months contractors had been able to turn round a ship carrying 6,000 tons of cement in five and a half days and a ship carrying 4,800 tons of wheat in four days.

The reactivation of the port started in April, 1970, and was completed in January, 1971, he said. "Between 1970 and now there has been a steady increase in trade and in the past six months (to the end of April) the growth has been phenomenal". In the financial year 1972-



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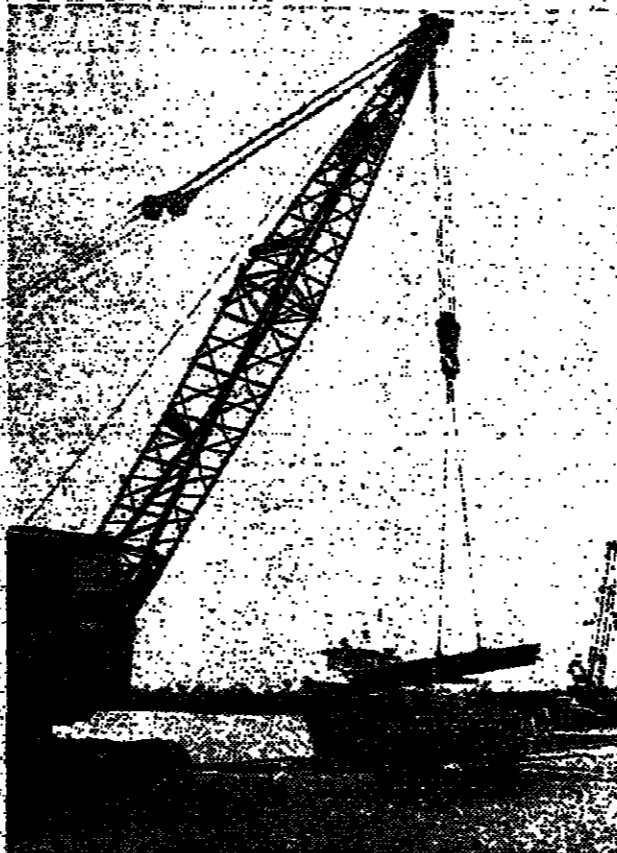
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Warri and Calabar: \$7m expansion to confer international status

Plans for a \$7 million expansion of Warri and Calabar ports to confer international status are being considered by the Nigerian Government. The expansion programme, which is being financed by the World Bank, will include the construction of new berths, the deepening of the harbours and the installation of modern port facilities. The Warri port, which is one of the largest in West Africa, will be expanded to handle 2 million tons of cargo annually. The Calabar port, which is a major port for the oil-producing states, will be expanded to handle 1 million tons of cargo annually. The expansion programme is expected to be completed by 1980.

The port of Warri, 42 miles up the Niger river, was scheduled to receive an investment of \$2 million for the construction of a new berth and the deepening of the harbour. The port of Calabar, on the Atlantic coast, is being expanded to handle 1 million tons of cargo annually. The expansion programme is expected to be completed by 1980. The Nigerian Government is committed to the development of its ports to support the country's growing economy and to attract foreign investment.



Unloading oil pipelines from Japan at Port Warri, Rivers State.

Bonny: rising exports usher in new prosperity

Bonny, which now ranks as Nigeria's principal port for crude oil, has had a long and chequered history, first as a centre of the slave trade and then as the main port for the export of palm oil in West Africa. For about 200 years Bonny, situated 28 miles south of Port Harcourt, which in the early part of this century dislodged Bonny's crown, was the centre of political and economic activity in the Niger delta. The development of Port Harcourt as an inland harbour led to the decline of Bonny to a simple fishing port until the exploitation of its natural advantages as an export terminal for the oil produced by Shell-BP from its Nigerian concessions ushered in a new period of ascendancy. As Nigeria has assumed a growing importance in the international oil producing and exporting league—it was the seventh largest oil producer in the world last year—Bonny has reflected this trend in a growing volume of exports and

steadily expansion of capacity. The rising oil output has led to other companies establishing export terminals in the delta, notably Gulf at Escravos and Agip at Brass. When the Bonny terminal began operating in 1961 the first phase of construction included four storage tanks which in the early part of this century dislodged Bonny's crown, was the centre of political and economic activity in the Niger delta. Development of Bonny as an oil port involved the dredging of the bar across the mouth of the river to a depth of 27ft and later to 37ft 6in; this enabled tankers of 65,000 to 75,000 tons to sail up to the four inshore loading berths. During the civil war the storage resources were badly damaged, two of the main tanks being destroyed, booster station pumps damaged and the jetty burnt down. The subsequent rehabilitation programme was designed to ensure that the port should be able to cope with the expected increase in crude oil production. As a result of the reconstruction programme the inshore berths at Bonny up to a year ago were handling some 60 tankers every month. But the number of ships using these berths has since fallen because of the introduction of an offshore single buoy mooring installation suited to the loading of very large crude carriers of more than 200,000 tons which in spite of the dredging of the Bonny Bar are unable to sail upriver. The single buoy mooring facility, located between eight and nine miles off shore, is operated jointly with the storage and loading facilities at the Bonny terminal and, while the number of ships handled at the inshore berths has tended to decline, the volume of oil moved through Bonny has continued to rise. During March 56 tankers berthed at Bonny and of these 22 loaded offshore and 34 inshore, while last year 370 tankers loaded at the

continued on page XII



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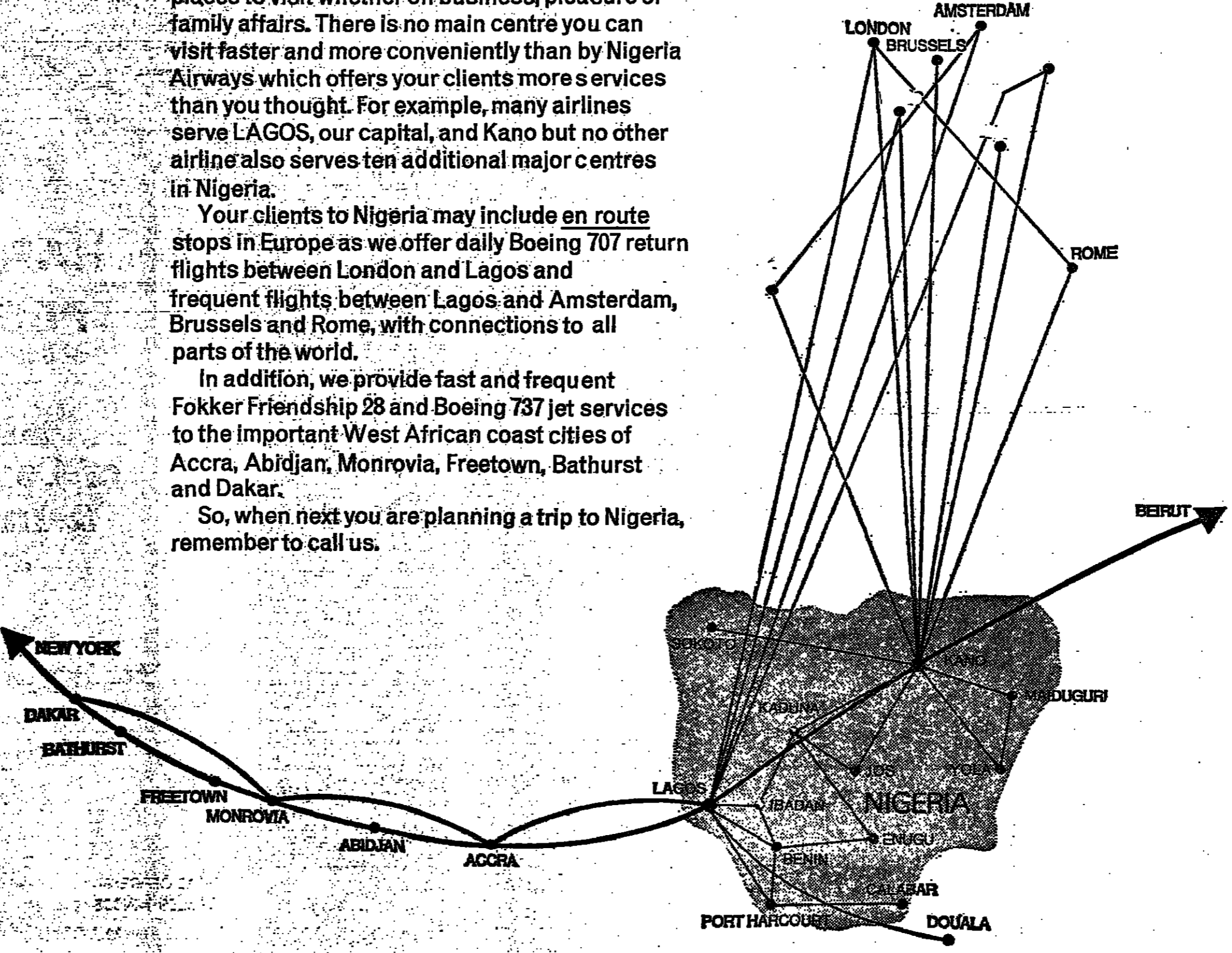
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Railway corporation faces uphill task to provide efficient and reliable services

by Peter Hill

Since the early 1960s, after independence, transportation and communications by road, rail, sea and air have formed a vital element in the development of Nigeria. Substantial progress has been made in virtually every sector, despite the setbacks suffered during the civil war; but there is still a considerable way to go.

In Lagos, the capital, traffic congestion at certain times of the day is probably worse than anywhere in the world. At Apapa, Nigeria's principal port, serious jams develop quickly and stifle the movement of goods in and out of the port. Major roads linking the south with the hinterland, while adequate to cope with present traffic, may be inadequate to cope with the density of traffic likely a few years hence.

The railway system which preceded road development and largely opened up Nigeria's vast hinterland, has been running at a loss for more than a decade.

Within government and the federal and state ministries responsible there is, however, a recognition of transport difficulties and a desire to see that as far as possible they are not allowed to become more acute and thus hinder Nigeria's economic development.

Nigeria's railway system, totalling 2,178 route miles and administered by the Nigerian Railway Corporation, is the sixth largest in Africa. It forms a large and slightly distorted letter H with two north-south links. One runs from Lagos to Nguru in the north, a distance of some 843 miles, while the second reaches from Port Harcourt to Maiduguri (some 897 miles). The routes are linked by a 111-mile stretch between Kaduna and Kafanchan.

Construction of the 3ft 6in gauge single-track system (which is now a major constraint on the railways' effective operation) began in 1898 and throughout has been closely allied with the development of the economy, particularly the movement of agricultural produce from the northern region to the principal ports in the south and the exploitation of natural resources such as tin and coal.

The archaic single track restricts speeds to 40 mph. In addition, the railway has some 1,500 curves of more than 4°. This inevitably creates problems, and a journey from Lagos to Kano in the north (a distance of

about 700 miles) can take some 30 hours). Nevertheless Mr T. I. O. Nzewgwu, acting general manager of the NRC, has said that the corporation's objective is to provide an efficient and reliable service to enhance economic, social and general welfare.

It will continue to be an uphill task to achieve that objective. Predominantly a long distance carrier of freight and passenger traffic, the theoretical capacity of the main line is 24 trains a day in each direction on the Kano-Kaduna-Minna section; 20 on the Minna-Lagos section; and 18 on the Kaduna-Kafanchan-Port Harcourt section.

The NRC both before and after the civil war has tended to take second place, in terms of investment under federal plans, to the development of roads. Though the NRC has sought to improve efficiency through the introduction of diesel locomotives, this has met with only mixed success.

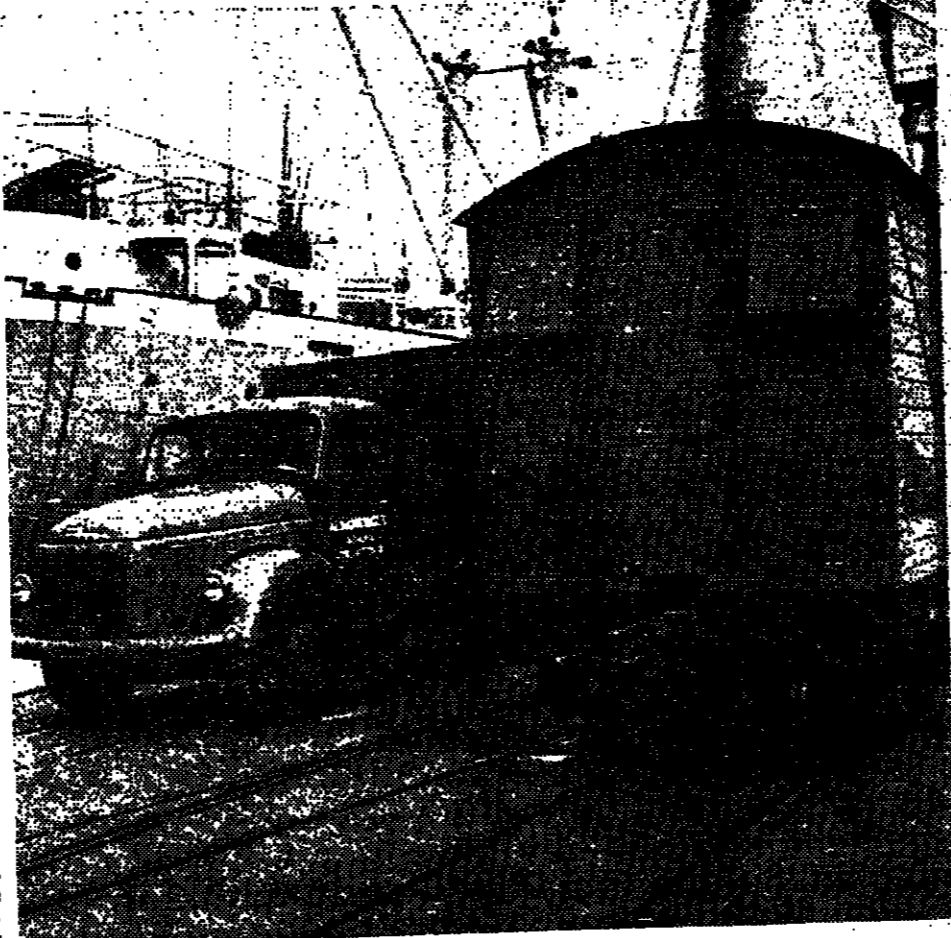
Non-revision of tariffs

Factors which have contributed to the decline of the railway's fortunes are many. They include the non-revision of tariffs for a period of eight years; the civil war; heavy interest charges on capital and recurrent expenditure; obsolete and inadequate equipment; growing competition from road transport; and the decline in volume of agricultural exports, with a consequent loss of revenue.

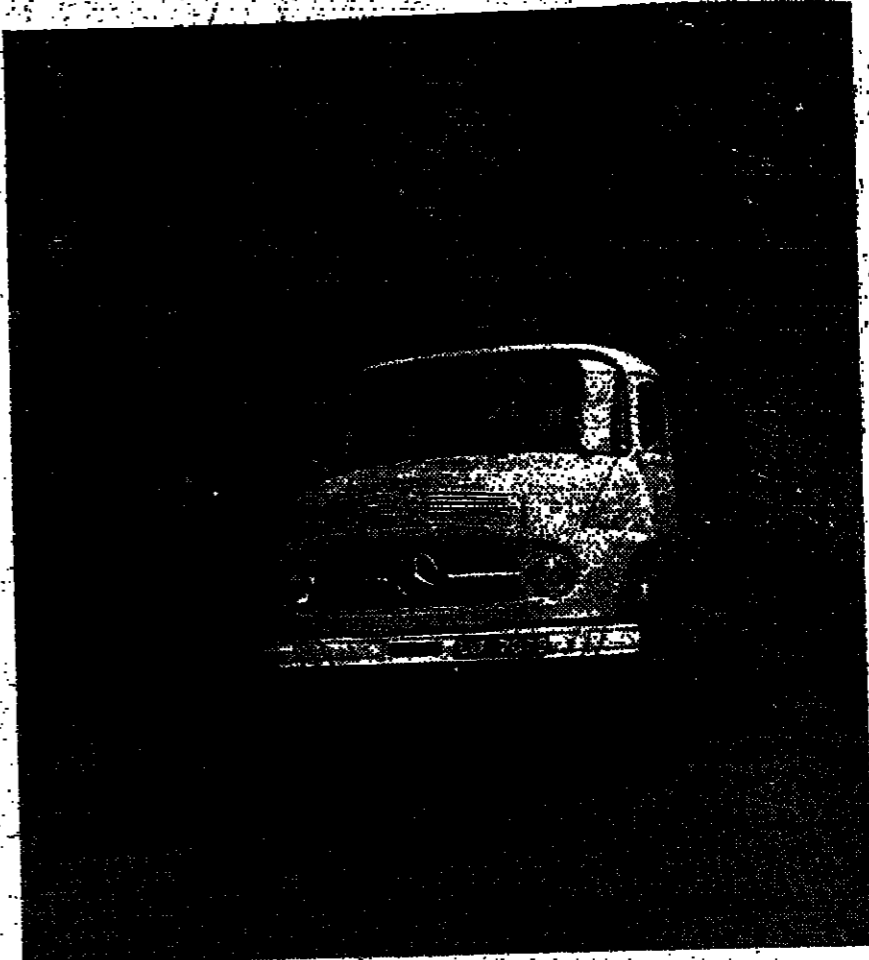
Export products such as groundnuts, groundnut cake and oil, and cotton, have traditionally accounted for about half the revenue while freight movements have accounted for about 85 per cent of revenue. Drought in recent years has had a severe effect but has merely underlined the overall downward trend.

In 1958-59 agricultural products exported by rail amounted to 849,500 tons and rose to 880,900 tons in 1963-64. From then the trend was downwards to 767,467 tons in 1968-69, sinking to about 400,000 in 1970-71, and lower still to about 350,000 tons the following year.

NRC executives are clear on the future needs of the railway system, but authority to carry out the reforms and improvements lies with the federal authorities. Governmental studies and decisions on an independent assessment carried out some time ago by Canadian consultants will, in the words of



The busy goods traffic at Apapa docks is illustrated by the conjunction of three types of transport (left) - On the country roads of the Mid-Western State the lorry is king to distribution (right).



the guidelines for the third national development plan, "form the kernel of the railway programme". The document, however, states cryptically the level of new capital infusion will take cognizance of efforts at management reforms.

NRC officials point out that on an average haul of 500 miles, the railway system provides the most economic mode of transport and they consider it desirable to allocate a substantial part of freight traffic to the railways.

And the potential would appear to be there. Witness the development of the Nigerian iron and steel industry, the establishment of major car assembly plants by Peugeot at Kaduna and Volkswagen in Lagos, and the predicted growth of containerization in Nigeria and West Africa over the next few years, and the potential for the export of Nigeria's coal reserves, although shortages of rolling stock in the past two months have acted as a brake on this activity.

Despite the problems, Mr Nzewgwu considers that the age of the NRC has arrived

and against the advances made in road development, the railway would continue to play a vital role in Nigeria's economic development.

But the railway has considerable leeway to make up. For under the current national development plan, N644m has been spent on the reconstruction and rehabilitation of 4,588 miles of roads. The wide difference in the amount allocated for road compared with rail investment under the programme has been a source of considerable controversy. Nevertheless, the benefits which improved road communications have brought have perhaps been felt more immediately by a greater number of people.

Growing road traffic

The first trunk road in Nigeria's hinterland was constructed in 1905. Further road (and rail) development followed, and this enabled agricultural produce to be transported from the hinterland to the ports for export; it also facilitated the impor-

trunk roads are the responsibility of the states and provide links to the federal grid and to the railway terminals and ports. Finally, the largest number of roads are the local authority roads which provide the feeder links to the A and B trunk roads.

The four main north-south A trunk roads link Lagos, Warri, Port Harcourt and Calabar while one of the west-east roads runs from Lagos through the Western, Mid-Western, East Central and South-Eastern states to the border with Cameroon.

Road traffic has been growing at a rate of about 12 per cent annually for several years and the indications are, that with increasing prosperity, growth will be considerably greater. The extent to which this has contributed to Nigeria's rate of development can be gauged from the fact that 21 per cent of the country's imports were carried by road in 1955, rising to 68 per cent in 1968. Exports followed a similar pattern, rising from 13 per cent in 1955 to 50 per cent by 1968.

Roads in Nigeria are classified in three sections. First, A trunk roads, which form a north-south and east-west grid on which the rest of the road network is built. They link major capitals and provide the link between the large agricultural areas and the main Nigerian ports. B

trunk roads are the responsibility of the states and provide links to the federal grid and to the railway terminals and ports. Finally, the largest number of roads are the local authority roads which provide the feeder links to the A and B trunk roads.

The four main north-south A trunk roads link Lagos, Warri, Port Harcourt and Calabar while one of the west-east roads runs from Lagos through the Western, Mid-Western, East Central and South-Eastern states to the border with Cameroon.

Aid to easing congestion

Under the second development plan's road programme, major improvements have been made and a primary objective has been to create a national road network of primary and secondary arteries to cut across the A and B trunk roads. Work has taken place under four broad categories: rehabilitating existing roads; continuing projects; rehabilitation projects; new projects; and feasibility studies.

The first category is undoubtedly the Apapa road-Jorua Causeway completed in January last year at a cost of N235.5m. It includes the first elevated complex in black Africa and together with completion of the Eko bridge has gone a considerable way to easing congestion in the Lagos area. However, it has by no means solved it.

The complex forms part of one of the north-south routes and is also a possible terminal of both the proposed Lagos-Mombasa and Trans-Saharan highways. Other continuing projects include a link between Calabar and Ala; and Warri-Kaduna.

Road rehabilitation, particularly for roads which suffered damage during the civil war, is also being undertaken, while new projects have included the Lagos-Badagry expressway which will link the country's two largest cities. Top priority has been given to the Western Avenue-Agege road (carried over from the 1962-68 development plan). During the current plan, feasibility studies and final

engineering design being carried out on other 15 roads.

Mr M. T. Usman, Director of Public Works, stated recently that of Nigeria's road network, 10 to 15 years' indeed is important to the degree of nation building and economic development the Federal Government sought to achieve.

But with the vehicles further increasing daily, further development of road transport is inevitable. Federal Government is coming increasingly of the need for much enforcement of traffic regulations. One vital attention is in common road transport when loading of axes is more than twice the level. This can lead to a rapid deterioration of road surfaces.

Help with the picture captionation of this Report was given by J. Cash, Alan Hutchison and Pike.

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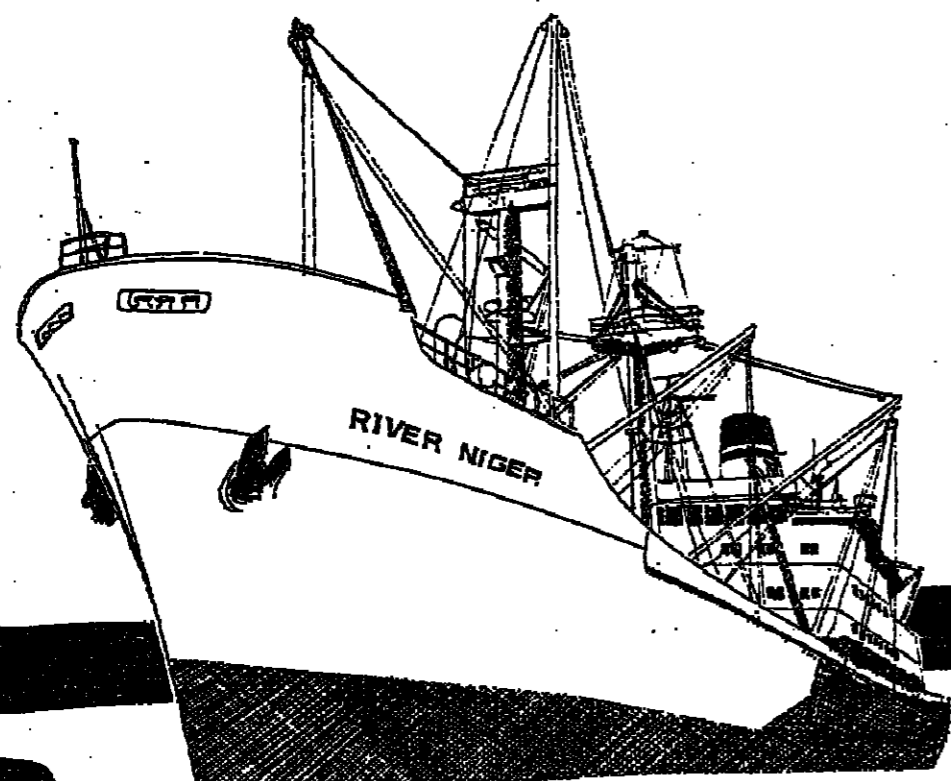
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Northbound ships light on cargo

Day or night, it is a rare occurrence for any of the berths at Apapa wharf, across the water from Lagos, to be vacant. The port is, after all, the main channel through which most of Nigeria's import and export trade, together with a growing volume of coastal traffic, passes. It is carried by many shipping lines.

Nigeria's large population and demand for the goods and equipment to support industrialization and development are ensuring ample cargoes. It is the shipping lines certainly in the southbound direction, although the effects of drought on the country's usual agricultural exports are reflected in certain instances in unacceptably low levels of loading of ships travelling northwards.

After the break-up of the old West African Lines Shipping Conference two separate but related conferences established themselves - the United Kingdom/West Africa Lines Joint Service (UKWAL) and the Continent/West Africa Conference (COWAC), which covers services between the Continent and Scandinavia and West Africa.

There are six lines in membership of the UKWAL, three of them British - Elder Dempster, Palm Line and Guinea Gulf - two African - the Black Star Line of Ghana and the Nigerian National Shipping Line - and the Norwegian Høegh Lines.

The UKWAL service is not restricted to the chief Nigerian ports but operates into some 30 regular ports along the West African coast, although a large part of trade is concerned with shipments to Nigeria. In 1972 south-bound trade amounted to 1,250,000 freight tons to all ports, with some 70 per cent accounted for by trade with Nigeria compared with a level of 50 per cent in 1967 at the start of the civil war.

Member lines of the UKWAL have a 28-day sailing pattern, while there are also express services operating from Liverpool and London on alternate weeks. It was this express service that pioneered the introduction of containers to Nigeria 10 years ago with the formation of African Container Express (ACE) by Palm Line, Elder Dempster and the Nigerian National Shipping Line. It has been gradually expanded to cater for the container age, although the introduction of fully cellular container services is some way off.

A start, however, has been made with the introduction in April of the first of a series of three combination ships able to carry containers or conventional bulk cargoes. Other vessels are planned.

One of the first combination ships will be operated by the Nigerian National Shipping Line, which was formed in 1968 as part of government policy to extend state participation in private industry. It began with a fleet of three secondhand vessels, which has gradually been expanded to 14 owned ships. Under the second development plan the Federal Government undertook to carry through urgent managerial reforms and to replace four of the company's vessels which were over age.

It is difficult to assess what role the national line will have in helping to reach the objective of the third development plan. The formulation of policy is a matter for the Federal Ministry of Transport and on it will depend the nature of the development of the line's fleet. It would seem likely that, interestingly, as with other developing countries, Nigeria will seek to carry more and more of its foreign trade in ships owned, operated and registered in Nigeria.

Bonny: rising exports usher in new prosperity


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inshore berths and between 70 and 80 at the offshore facility.

Shell-BP also has developed additional oil exporting capacity at Forcados because of the increased production from its fields in the western sector of the delta, although Bonny continues to be the principal loading point.

All the operations of the terminal, apart from mooring and the connecting of delivery lines at the inshore section, are directed from a central control room. A 35,000-ton tanker can be loaded in less than 24 hours. The Nigerian Ports Authority is responsible for pilotage and for the dredging and maintenance of the channel.

P.H.



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